Daily Report

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Ignatenko Statements on SFRY, Gorbachev, Treaty

Statement To Be Issued on SFRY Today

LD0608134191 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Konstantin Voytsekhovich]

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—The Soviet Government is going to issue a special statement on Yugoslavia "probably by the day's end", Soviet presidential spokesman Vitaliy Ignatenko told reporters at a briefing today.

He said that the statement will appeal to Yugoslavia's government and parliament and representatives of its republics to stem the crisis, put an end to bloodshed and sit down at the negotiating table to look together for a way out of the situation along the lines of democratic reform and a voluntary harmonising of interests in the name of saving the nation. Ignatenko said the statement will make a point of stressing that "there is no conflict or dispute that could not be resolved through talks and mutual give-and-take". He added that "it is hard to understand" forces in Yugoslavia that refuse to take part in negotiations and that act on the "all or nothing" principle. According to Ignatenko, the statement will also appeal to countries, the positions of which are "in many ways crucial" in the given situation. "The divide between good offices and interference in internal affairs is very fuzzy, and this is unacceptable from any standpoint," the Soviet presidential spokesman said. One must be very cautious because of the risk of being automatically drawn into the conflict, he added. Speaking of those who believe that the crisis could be settled through the recognition of the separation of Slovenia and Croatia from Yugoslavia, Ignatenko said that "such politicians cannot but see that this would not only drag out but even worsen the national tragedy" of Yugoslavia.

Union Treaty To Be Signed 20 Aug, 3 Sep

LD0608134791 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Konstantin Voytsekhovich]

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—The Soviet Union's new federal treaty will be signed by three republics at a special ceremony in St. George's Hall of the Grand Kremlin Palace, the venue of the grander state occasions, at 11:00 on August 20, presidential spokesman Vitaliy Ignatenko told a briefing here today. He said the ceremony, "to involve plenipotentiary delegations from Russia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, will be attended by President Mikhail Gorbachev, Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov, parliament speaker Anatoliy Lukyanov, the chairmen of the two parliamentary chambers, Ivan Laptev and Rafik Nishanov, and representatives of other republics. Ignatenko said that the treaty is expected to be signed by Belorussia and Tadjikistan on September 3.

Comments on Changing Relations With Cuba

LD0608201191 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 6 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Answering journalists' questions, presidential aide Ignatenko touched on Soviet-Cuban relations. He noted that the Soviet side is aware of the criticism of the Cuban side on the processes that are taking place in the Soviet Union. We listen to it attentively, and believe that this is a normal political process, especially in relations between friends. Of course, the structure of mutual relations with Cuba is changing, Ignatenko said. There is more and more of an economic partnership, which is beneficial to both sides, and there is less and less of so-called military deliveries.

With regard to the estimated dates for the renewal of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Israel, Ignatenko stressed that it is not a question of dates. He said that it is important that we are on the way to it and that we have made up our minds.

Says Gorbachev Investigating Medininkai

LD0608191591 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 6 Aug 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] You already know that the day before yesterday, USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev left for the south with his family. This year he has not yet had a vacation. This was recalled at a news conference today by Vitaliy Ignatenko, the president's public relations assistant, who noted that Gorbachev's departure is in no way linked to the Russian departyization decree coming into force. This holiday, according to Ignatenko, does not mean that the president does not know about all matters and problems taking place. There is indeed great interest in this today. [video shows Ignatenko news conference, at which an unidentifed man questions Ignatenko about what Gorbachev said at a joint news conference last week about taking personal charge of an investigation into the Medininkai incident]

[Unidentified man] What exactly is the mechanism by which Gorbachev will take personal charge of the Medininkai incident?

[Ignatenko] The president's taking personal charge is a very serious measure. The entire leadership of the State Security Committee and the Internal Affairs Ministry is dealing with this. Comrade Vladimir Aleksandrovich Kryuchkov has been personally put in charge. Reports about this will be forthcoming. We are hoping to receive reports quickly so we can reveal the results.

[Unidentified reporter] The results may turn out to be anything at all. The whole of the presidential office is engaged in the investigation of the customs officers. The minister and the KGB are personally responsible. The

situation is an ambiguous one inasmuch as yesterday, the soldiers' organization Shield [Shchit] accused the KGB of involvement in the tragedy in Medininkai.

On Gorbachev's Health

LD0608153891 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Konstantin Voytsekhovich]

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—The Soviet Government is expected to issue a statement on Yugoslavia by the end of the day, Soviet presidential spokesman Vitaliy Ignatenko told a briefing here today.

Ignatenko informed journalists in preliminary fashion about the content of the statement and noted that it contained a call on Yugoslavia's government and parliament and representatives of republics to stop the enhancing crisis, end bloodshed and look for a way out of the crisis at the negotiation table through democratic reforms and a voluntary combination of interests in the name of saving the country. The statement, Ignatenko said, particularly emphasizes that "there is no conflict or a dispute that would not be solved through negotiations and mutual concessions". In this connection, the presidential spokesman stressed that at present it is very difficult to understand those forces in Yugoslavia that reject negotiations and act on the principle, "all or nothing".

An important place in the statement, Ignatenko said, is given to an appeal to the countries on whose position much depends in the present situation. "The line is very vague between good offices and interference in internal affairs," he said. "This is precisely what is unacceptable from any point of view".

The ceremony of signing the Union treaty by authorized delegations from the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan is scheduled for August 20 at 11:00 in the St. George's Hall of the Grand Kremlin Palace, where most important state events are held, Ignatenko told the briefing. [sentence as received] The ceremony will be attended by President Mikhail Gorbachev, Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov, Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Anatoliy Lukyanov, the leaders of the federal parliament's chambers Ivan Laptev and Rafik Nishanov and representatives of republics.

Asked about the Soviet president's vacation and state of health, Ignatenko said that even when on vacations Mikhail Gorbachev is always ready to promptly take up any problem. The Soviet president's daily mail is enormous and he maintains continuous contacts not only with the leadership of the country but also with the leaders of republics, territories and regions, particularly those where the fate of the harvest is now being decided. As regards Mikhail Gorbachev's state of health, Ignatenko stressed that he is very healthy judging by the fact that medical checks are taken by him literally on the run and he had a vacation of only two weeks last year.

Summing up the results of the Soviet president's work in the past political season, Ignatenko said that the president received 150,000 letters from the Soviet Union and 45,000 from other countries during the past six months. More than 1,000 letters have noted in his own hand, Ignatenko said. This means that the president has not only looked through a letter but replied to it and issued relevant instructions. Every fifth letter, Ignatenko said, is devoted to inter-ethnic conflicts.

Most foreign letters come from West Europe, mainly Germany and Sweden. Many letters came from the United States as well.

Gorbachev's Letter to KAL-007 Victims' Families

PM0708100591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Aug 91 Union Edition p 4

["Follow Up" report by A. Illesh and A. Shalnev: "KAL-007: President Makes Goodwill Gesture"]

[Text] New York-Moscow—President Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a letter to the Korean families of the victims of flight KAL-007 in which he informs them that, contrary to rumor and conjecture, no cremation was carried out of the bodies of passengers aboard the South Korean airliner downed over Sakhalin on 1 September 1983. Mikhail Gorbachev notes that, as a goodwill gesture, the families of the victims will be allowed to arrange a memorial service this year at the site of the airliner's destruction. The Soviet head of state says that any new information on the tragedy which comes to light will be made public.

According to information received, Army General Mikhail Moiseyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, has also sent a letter, but to the U.S. association of families of KAL-007 victims. As far as we are aware, it points out that the Defense Ministry has no new information above that already communicated to the International Civil Aviation Organization [ICAO] (incidentally, this report has never been published in full in the open press in the USSR, and the ICAO commission's conclusions make extremely sad reading for the USSR: There are direct and indirect charges against our side—authors' note). The general's letter expresses sorrow over the death of the 269 passengers and crew of the Boeing-747.

Another event: It has become known that back in 1985 the British Government filed a 2 million pound sterling claim against the Soviet Union for humanitarian compensation for the deaths of the 14 KAL-007 passengers who were either British subjects or came in some other way under the UK Government's legal protection. This claim has not yet been satisfied. But it is assumed in London, as emerges from explanations received from Downing Street, that the Soviet Union authorities "will accept responsibility and pay reparations to the families of the innocent victims."

Now for a piece of local news, as it were: IZVESTIYA has also received a letter. We have been informed by the USSR Foreign Ministry as follows: "The Far Eastern and Indochina Countries Department has been closely following the investigation of the circumstances surrounding the destruction in September 1983 of the South Korean airliner on flight KAL-007 conducted by IZVESTIYA ("The Mystery of the Korean Boeing-747," IZVESTIYA Nos. 18-34, 112, 115-117, and 119-127).

"Our Ministry possesses no additional material whatsoever which could confirm or refute what is expounded in the article by A. Illesh and A. Shalnev. We would like to use this occasion to inform your newspaper that the USSR Foreign Ministry is engaged in the most direct way with the political aspects of this problem, which still remains a thorn in Soviet-Korean relations. The question of the Boeing tragedy has been repeatedly discussed with the South Korean side at various levels, including the highest.

"At present our Ministry, together with the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Foreign Ministry, the local authorities of the island of Sakhalin, and representatives of the Republic of Korea, is studying the practical questions (transport, finance, and so on) connected with a visit by a large group of relatives of victims to the site of the destruction of the aircraft on the eighth anniversary of the incident. This is planned for 1 September. It is intended to hold the ceremony of mourning close to Moneron."

Pay attention now! For the first time in the history of the investigation of this major tragedy, official Soviet authorities are providing journalists with fresh information, namely, the ceremony of mourning will be held at a point whose coordinates are 40 degrees 35 minutes latitude north and 141 degrees 21 minutes longitude east, at the approximate location of fragments and wreckage from the aircraft which lies at the bottom of the Sea of Japan. These coordinates were obtained by the Foreign Ministry from the USSR Defense Ministry.

And in conclusion the Foreign Ministry writes: "We anticipate that the steps taken by the Soviet side will help reduce the emotions generated around this incident in which, as we know, the South Korean authorities also have an interest."

The editorial office, however, is convinced that "passions" will continue to seethe over KAL-007 until the official explanations concerning the entire "riddle" of this story are widely publicized. And we are deeply convinced that all the interested parties—the USSR, the United States, the Republic of Korea, and Japan—must do this.

UNESCO Official Pays Visit 23-26 Jul

PM0508113991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jul 91 Union Edition p 1

[Item from roundup of IZVESTIYA, TASS, IAN, REUTER, INTERFAX, RIA reports: "Bridge Between the USSR and UNESCO"]

[Text] UNESCO has become actively involved in the program of technical assistance to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Richard Si [surname as transliterated], director of the UNESCO program for the partnership of science, universities, and industry (SIPAR), was in Moscow 23-26 July. This visit was organized by the "International Intellectual Markets" Association for Business Cooperation and the International Science and Research Institute for Management Problems (MINIPU) with assistance from the USSR Commission for UNESCO.

The SIPAR program is based on information cooperation between transnational companies and national and subnational structural and scientific institutes, making it possible to efficiently select projects for the application of high technology and the prompt involvement of international capital in their implementation.

During the visit a number of agreements were signed with the Russian Academy of Technological Sciences, the RSFSR Council of Ministers Information Council, the MINIPU, the USSR Ministry of Economics and Forecasting, and the "MIR" Association, IZVESTIYA correspondent B. Konovalov reports.

United States & Canada

Summit Eve Public Opinion Poll Analyzed

PM0608122791 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 91 Second Edition p 5

[Correspondent V. Sukhoy under the rubric "USSR-United States: Moscow Summit Meeting": "Opinions Coincide. What Polls Showed"]

[Text] New York, 29 Jul—On the eve of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow, a number of U.S. organizations initiated public opinion polls in the United States and USSR about economic problems. The Times Mirror company sponsored polls among the population of the European part of Russia and the Ukraine which were carried out by the USSR Academy of Sciences Sociology Institute. Some 1,123 Russians and 586 Ukrainians were polled.

Most of the respondents welcome the efforts directed at the transition to a market economy. But only 23 percent think that we should aspire to the capitalist market which currently exists in the United States or Germany. The "modified form of capitalism which exists in Sweden" is preferred by 48 percent of participants in the polls.

The respondents are unanimous that the agricultural economy should be transferred into private hands, while heavy industry, transportation, mail and telegraph services, banks, the education system, and television and radio should remain in the state sector.

Opinions were equally split on the question of private incomes. Fifty percent think that entrepreneurs must be allowed to make any profit whatever, while 48 percent believe that the state is duty-bound to limit the size of private incomes.

Three out of four Russians and Ukrainians attribute the economic disorders to "the country's most acute problems," while eight out of 10 regard the economic situation in the USSR as "critical" and think that it has deteriorated compared with 1985.

The 1,002 Americans polled by the Gallup Institute showed surprising unanimity with the inhabitants of Russia and the Ukraine. Seventy-one percent assessed the USSR's economic problems as "very serious" and 23 percent assessed them as "quite serious." Forty-seven percent of the respondents expressed their confidence that "perestroyka in the Soviet economy will be crowned with success" (in a similar poll in mid-1989 65 percent of Americans adhered to this opinion).

As regards direct economic aid to the Soviet Union, Americans show skepticism here.

KGB, Secret Service Cooperate for Bush Visit

LD0508213991 Moscow TASS in English 2124 GMT 5 Aug 91

[By correspondent Sergey Petukhov]

[Text] Moscow August 5 TASS—"Tiredness and satisfaction that is what I feel now that the visit of American President Bush to the Soviet Union is over," deputy head of the Soviet State Security Committee's Guard Service Headquarters Valeriy Velichko told TASS with a sigh of relief.

"Another important page in the history of our country and the life of the service has been successfully turned.

"All the range of political passions storming around the world was reflected in our work to provide for the visit's security. We had to restrain both the wrath of furious pro-Iraqi demonstrators and the enthusiasm of a Jewish rabbi delegation welcoming the President," he said.

Wild outbursts of demonstrators' emotions equally hamper our performance and require measures to be taken, so that "none of them got under a swiftly moving motorcade vehicle."

"We had to reorganise our work because of a demonstration of Meskhetian Turks, which could hamper the U.S. President's wreathlaying at the Unknown Soldier Tomb.

"it does credit to the demonstrators that they gave us an opportunity to carry out the scheduled arrangement after talking to our staffers.

"There were amusing accidents as well. But they are not so harmless as they seem to be at the first glance. A few minutes before Bush's arrival to the Kremlin, our men saw in one of the windows along the route a youngster in a semi-military uniform, who watched the road attentively.

"He did something strange with an electronic device—a radio station or a sensing element. It turned out that the 22-year-old 'boy' was 'playing war and intelligence'.

"Our service worked in a full contact and understanding with American colleagues. The latter learned the Russian word of 'spasibo' (thanks) and used it till bidding us farewell at the airport.

"So much the pity that some mass media bodies tried to spoil good cooperation and joint work of the two countries' services with a fly in the ointment," Velichko said.

Before the U.S. President's departure, there was a meeting between Secret Service Director John Simpson and head of the State Security Committee's Guard Service Lieutenant-General Yuriy Plekhanov.

The sides noted that there was no any falling out of step or lack of understanding in relations between the two services.

Where did the information come from about the alleged failure of radio stations' performance? Who said that Soviet and American staffers quarreled over seats at the dinner table? Nothing of this sort had happened.

Over 2,500 correspondents covered the visit, Velichko said. Until now there has been no claims on our service on the part of the press, Velichko stressed.

Northeast Asia

Kim Il-song Gives Hospital No-Pain Drill

PM0608160191 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 p 5

[Article by A. Vladimirov: "Treating Revolutionary Teeth"]

[Text] Once, when he was passing through a city, the "great leader" Kim Il-song asked his driver to stop outside a hospital. "We need to see how things are with the medical service," he said. And he added: "The stronger working people's health is, the more firmly our revolution will march forward." The medical staffers were profoundly agitated by this thought. They swore to carry out their professional duty with redoubled energy, remembering the "great leader's" directive day and nightly

A short time later the hospital received a gift from Kim Il-song—a special dentist's drill which causes no discomfort. A meeting with the participation of the medical personnel and the hospital patients was held to mark the event. The speakers tearfully expressed their selfless devotion to the party, which cares for the people like a mother. After the meeting a plaque was mounted on the drill. A rumor circulated among the people that whoever had their teeth treated even once at that hospital would never suffer from toothache again. But in order to reach the cherished chair, you needed to actually prove your boundless fidelity to the "father of the nation." Revolutions require ideologically tempered fighters with strong teeth.

Paper Secures Action Over North Korean Links

PM0508153491 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 28, 14-21 Jul 91 p 3

[Article by Stanislav Glukhov: "Resonance: Emulating the CIA?"]

[Text] "Prime Minister Pavlov threw the draft agreement on Joint Soviet-North Korean lumbering into the waste-paper basket because of your article," complained Chairman Nikolay Danilyuk of the Khabarovsk Territorial Soviet of People's Deputies about MN publication of "Better in jail than at home" (No. 11, 1991).

It was the story of ecological devastation wrought by North Korean prisoners who work as lumberjacks in the Soviet Far East. Moscow News investigated and published a report on an illegal Korean prison practicing torture and violating human dignity in Chegdomyn, a settlement in Khabarovsk Territory, the Soviet Far East. Also, this newspaper made public the fact that secret services of a neighbouring state, North Korea, act almost legally on Soviet territory in "close contact and interaction" with the local KGB department. KGB officials have admitted to this.

What was the official reaction to these sensational findings? At present more than 11,000 Korean lumberjacks live a precarious existence in the Khabarovsk area as the term of the bilateral intergovernmental agreement expired six months ago. Local authorities, the Far Eastern Forestry and the Soviet Forestry Ministry are pushing for a renewal of the agreement having recently recruited a Russian Federation Ministry official to ensure themselves against the unpredictability of the central government. The negotiations are due to be completed in Pyongyang in mid-July.

The Khabarovsk Regional Prosecutor's Office, after closing its eyes to the existence of the Korean prison in Chegdomyn for years, finally asked the Korean authorities to allow a commission inside the "secret building" to verify the facts revealed by Moscow News. The appropriate authorization was given and yesterday's prison was renamed "isolation ward" or "hostel". Foreign and Soviet reporters coming to Chegdomyn are being shown freshly made bunks and new betting but traces of iron bars hastily removed are evident.

In response to conservationists' demand to help repair damage done to the taiga over the 20 years of "fraternal cooperation", the draft Agreement for the first time includes a clause on reforestation. To alleviate the crime situation in the areas populated by the Korean workers, hundreds of offenders were sent home last year. Also the Moscow News publication coincided with the replacement of General Kim Ok as administrator of the Chegdomyn prison by General Pak Chun Song. The Korean secret services are reported to be planning to install criminal proceedings against Moscow News for slanderous and biased representation of Soviet-Korean relations.

Chief of the local KGB has assessed the MN publication similarly: "Everything has been turned upside down in what appears to be yet another attempt to run down our secret services..."

On behalf of Moscow News I asked him to explain why his department ignores countless signs of an international, million- dollar poaching racket, and present his own realistic version of the events. Major-General Vitaliy Pirozhnyak's reply was brilliant. He said there were universally accepted rules which are followed, specifically, by his CIA colleagues: "To survive, secret services should ignore mosquito bites in the press."

The CIA's "keep cool" principle seems to be followed not only by the Khabarovsk KGB, but also by other local

authorities. None of them chose to comment on the problems raised in the Moscow News publication.

Jurisdiction Problem Blights Japanese Aid

PM0608144991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jul 91 First Edition p3

["Conversion in USSR" article by A. Golts: "Sober, Detached View"]

[Text] Once again, Japan has lived up to its image as a country of extremely dynamic businessmen. Before the Group of Seven in London had time to adopt a decision on intellectual assistance for the Soviet Union in the defense industry conversion sphere, a delegation of more than 40 representatives of government and business circles, commercial firms, and banks, experts, and engineers arrived in our country. True, B. Fujiwara, deputy general director of the Foreign Trade and Policy Department in the Japanese Foreign Trade Ministry, did say that the delegation's arrival had coincided with the London meeting by chance. However, the fact that this high-ranking official hurried from London to Moscow is very telling.

The first part of the visit was spent in the Urals, journalists were told by H. Kanamori, head of the delegation and director of the USSR and East European Economy Institute. The delegation toured defense industry enterprises and talked to their directors. A special seminar was organized, at which the Japanese guests talked about the experience of postwar conversion in their own country. On their return to Moscow they had meetings with the leaders of the USSR Cabinet of Ministers State Military-Industrial Commission, at the Ministry of the Defense Industry, and with economists.

"We have seen for ourselves that the USSR is very serious about defense conversion," our interlocutor said. "It is a difficult process, of course, but without conversion the situation will only become more serious. Unfortunately, people at local level do not always understand how to deal with the problems that arise. After all, it is one thing to manufacture military equipment for a state order and quite another to produce civilian goods. In the latter case, you have to cut production costs and fight for foreign markets." H. Kanamori's words made me sceptical.

"Does this mean," I asked him, "that the conditions for cooperation with Japan are not yet ripe? When can we expect real implementation of joint programs?"

"If we are talking about assistance, various options are possible," he replied. "As far as intellectual assistance in management and foreign market research is concerned, that could be given right now. Cooperation on a purely commercial basis is also perfectly feasible. Various representatives of commercial firms believe that military plants are already producing civilian goods which could be sold in third countries. Others believe that components for Japan could start to be manufactured on defense enterprises' modern equipment."

But when it came to the question of large-scale investment or the organization of joint enterprises, our interlocutors were far less optimistic. B. Fujiwara said that any large projects would have to be discussed in government circles. It is true, however, that the Japanese were very interested in an idea put forward by representatives of the USSR presidential apparatus, namely that an analytical center be organized to deal with conversion issues. But no center will provide the answers to some of our guests' questions.

They told us, for example, that Russian Vice President A.V. Rutskoy stressed in a conversation with Japanese businessmen that enterprises in the defense complex will be transferred to the republic's jurisdiction in the future. But representatives of central bodies assured them that these enterprises will remain under the USSR's jurisdiction.

One can understand the bewilderment felt by the Japanese. Who on earth is going to invest money in enterprises when they do not even know to whom they belong?

In short, the Japanese experts' sober view has shown the potential of our defense complex and, alas, the losses we incur as a result of uncertainty and confusion.

Near East & South Asia

Palestinian Ambassador on Peace Conference

LD0608130391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1156 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By diplomatic correspondent Rostislav Gertsev]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Aug (TASS)—Nabil Amr, the ambassador of the state of Palestine to the USSR, described as historic the announcement at the Soviet-American summit in Moscow of the time- table of the conference on a Middle East settlement. He was speaking today to Soviet and foreign journalists at a news conference devoted to the UN position in the light of the new proposals on the Middle East. "We consider," he stated, "the defining of the timetable on holding the peace conference as an important qualitative step on the road to a peace settlement in the region".

At the same time the ambassador pointed out that Israel's position regarding the organization of the conference could exert a substantial negative influence on the development of the peace process and the progress of the conference itself. In particular, he referred to Israel's demands to be granted the right to monitor the defining of the composition of the Palestinian delegation, that the question of Jerusalem be removed from the conference agenda, and also the Israeli construction of settlements in the occupied territories. "In view of all this we cannot

consider Israel's consent in principle to take part in the peace conference as a serious step in the direction of a settlement," Nabil Amr stated.

The ambassador told journalists that during the Soviet-American summit meeting in Moscow, USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev was handed a message from Yasir 'Arafat, leader of the PLO, expressing the readiness of Palestine to cooperate with the USSR and United States in ensuring the peace process in the Middle East. The message raised a number of specific issues dealing with the interpretation of UN Security Council Resolution 242, the timetable and stages for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied territories, and the problem of the construction of Israeli settlements. The Palestinians are awaiting a reply from the Soviet side which, it is expected, will be coordinated with the United States. "This answer will, to a large extent, determine the position of the PLO at the talks", Nabil Amr believes.

The ambassador of Palestine to the USSR noted the important role the Soviet Union played in organizing the peace conference. At the same time, he said, the PLO has never and will never demand of the USSR any guarantees of support for its position.

Nabil Amr told the representatives of the mass media that soon there will be a conference of five Arab countries called at the initiative of the PLO, where it is possible that a general concept for the participation of these states in the conference on a Middle East settlement will be worked out.

Commentary on Near East Peace Opportunity

PM0608112591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 91 Second Edition p 4

[Commentary by Sergey Filatov: "Opportunity"]

[Text] After a fairly long pause, which has perhaps lasted since the end of the war in the Persian Gulf, some familiar words have reappeared in the world press: "the Palestinians." Attention has been drawn to them by the fighting around refugee camps in southern Lebanon.

In my view, this small but bloody conflict is the event that has revived the flagging interest of the press—and, in a broader context, international public opinion—in the tragic fate of the Palestinian people. After all, whether the PLO leadership likes it or not, its support of Iraq in the war against the coalition forces given UN blessing caused displeasure in many Arab capitals and cast a chill on relations between the PLO and West Europe. The Palestinians have found themselves in a difficult position as a result.

Time is the best healer, they say. Having waited a while, Yasir 'Arafat and his comrades are gradually beginning to make up for lost time and restore their temporarily frozen ties—and, most important of all, the prestige of the Palestinian resistance movement.

Judge for yourselves. In recent weeks, the PLO leadership has been in contact with representatives of Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and Algeria. 'Arafat has had a meeting with French Foreign Minister R. Dumas in Tunis. West Europe has reaffirmed that the PLO is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Even U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker met with a delegation of Palestinians representing the occupied territories during his previous tour of the region, and the PLO "okayed" these contacts.

Understanding of the obvious fact that a Near East settlement is impossible without a solution to the Palestinian problem is evidently contributing to this rehabilitation process.

The PLO's proposed formula—"territory in exchange for peace"—possibly contains the key to resolving the conflict, which there is no need to seek elsewhere.

Reading through news reports coming into the editorial office, I feel sure that the considerable moves being made in Near Eastern affairs are not all on the Palestinian side. More positive action by the PLO is coinciding with other elements in this difficult but, in my view, inevitable process. A. Bessmertnykh and J. Baker discussed new prospects for a settlement in Washington. Syria has responded positively to U.S. proposals for a peace conference on the Near East. Egyptian Prime Minister 'A. Sidqi has spoken of the "importance of Arab-Palestinian coordination."

Finally, U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker made another visit to countries in the region to consult with them on G. Bush's proposed plan for a peace settlement. That visit has produced considerable results. Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Jordan have said they are ready to end their boycott of Israel, including their economic boycott, if the latter stops building new Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. This is a completely new stand by the Arabs. Significantly, it is in harmony with the proposals made by the Group of Seven in London.

In order to check my impressions, I turned to Nabil 'Amr, ambassador for the State of Palestine to the Soviet Union. "An opportunity to break the deadlock is now emerging," he confirmed.

Is progress being made? One would like to think so. But Israel still will not bend. In response to Baker's proposal that it accept the U.S. plan, [Israeli Prime Minister] Shamir gave him to understand that his country will possibly enter into negotiations with its Arab neighbors but that it wants "some explanations" about who will represent the Palestinians. To all appearances, this question is going to be the main stumbling block. Israel has no wish to recognize the PLO, let alone hold peace talks with it.

It could continue to dig its heels in, of course, but what would it gain by that? After all, the security guarantees desired by the Israeli leaders can only be given on behalf

of the Palestinians by the PLO, and it would be impossible to effectively discuss the problems without it. If time and, as I see it, the opportunity now presenting itself are lost, there will simply be a greater danger of hard-line attitudes gaining strength among those members of the Palestinian population in the occupied territories who are being increasingly subjected to the influence of Islamic extremism. Despair gives rise to fanaticism, and a possible wave of terror could only worsen the situation. The smoldering coals of the Near East have flared up ominously more than once before. Is that what the Israeli people want?

"We are expecting a 'hot summer' in the sense of positive political actions," 'Amr said to me, "and we are hoping to advance the settlement process. After all, finding a solution to the Near East conflict is not just a Palestinian problem: It is a global task. Some prospects for a peace conference are now opening up. But it will be a catastrophe if these opportunities are lost."

Awakened hopes of a settlement and—in the event of their being frustrated—pessimistic expectations of bad times are the two poles of opinion in assessments of the present situation. It seems that the war in the Persian Gulf has proved to everyone that fire and even smoldering coals should be kept as far away as possible from the powder keg that is the Near East. Now is the time to extinguish the fire completely, while it is still fresh in people's minds.

Foreign Ministry Previews Middle East Conference

OW0608170991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1500 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Pyotr Vasiliyev, diplomatic correspondent; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" (DP) feature]

[Text] After the Soviet and U.S. Presidents adopted in Moscow a joint statement on the Middle East, preparations for a peace conference expected to put an end to one of the most protracted regional conflicts have entered into a decisive stage. As DP's reporter has learned at the USSR Foreign Ministry, the conference's co-initiators, the USSR and the USA, have taken steps to promote contacts with all the parties concerned. U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, for one, met with Palestinian leaders during his tour of the region, to discuss their possible involvement in the peace conference.

Soviet diplomats believe the conference will duly be held in October, given consensus on its format and structure. The main stumbling blocks so far are the form of Palestinian involvement in the conference, and the composition of the Palestinian delegation.

According to DP's sources, it is over these matters that the PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat expressed concern in his recent message to President Mikhail Gorbachev. The Soviet reaction is said to have boiled down to the following: "The USSR has carefully studied the PLO's considerations and invariably taken them into account in its diplomatic efforts."

The Palestinian leadership is still expected to have its final say on the problem.

Soviet experts believe forming a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace conference would be the best possible option in the present situation. According to a ranking Soviet diplomat, this would make it possible to avoid excessive organizational difficulties and cause no protests from Israel.

On the possible trip to the Middle East by the USSR Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the Foreign Ministry official said it might take place as part of the preparations for the peace conference. Asked if the restoration of Soviet-Israeli diplomatic relations was tied up to Israel's consent to take part in the conference, or to that country's role in the general work for regional peace, the official said: "We have been trying to avoid any pressure or bargaining with regard to restoring diplomatic relations. Israel and the Soviet Union need full-fledged diplomatic contacts. Yet the problem has its own history. The USSR has repeatedly said that full normalization, i.e., the restoration of diplomatic relations with Israel, would be expedient only if an active peace process began in the Middle East."

Kuwaiti Ambassador Meets With Yakovlev

LD0608151591 London KUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 6 Aug (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Ambassador to the USSR 'Abd al-Mohsen al-Du'ayj met here today with Gorbachev's top adviser Aleksandr Yakovlev. Al-Du'ayj reviewed with him the latest developments in Kuwait one year after the Iraqi invasion. He also mentioned the issue of the Kuwaiti prisoners still detained by the Iraqi regime. The Kuwaiti ambassador talked about the efforts being made by the Kuwaiti Government to extinguish the fires in the oil wells that the Iraqi troops blew up during their withdrawal from Kuwait. The Kuwait and Soviet sides exchanged views on the qualitative shift in Kuwaiti-Soviet relations and Gulf-Soviet relations since the liberation of Kuwait in the light of the crystalization of the new international order. The two sides also expressed their belief in the need to intensify visits by officials from the two countries and to establish economic and human relations to achieve a policy based on a balance of interests at government and public levels.

Officials on Indian Efforts To Undermine Treaty

OW0508211691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1627 GMT 5 Aug 91

[By Mikhail Mayorov; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature"]

[Text] According to the USSR Foreign Ministry's Arms Limitation and Disarmament Department, the year 1995 is to see the last conference within the framework of the Nuclear non-proliferation treaty. The conference is to discuss the expediency of, as well as the terms and time limits for the Treaty's extension. A ranking Soviet diplomat told DP's [Diplomatic Panorama] reporter that some of the countries not involved in the Treaty had been trying to persuade nations that have signed it, to have the nuclear non-proliferation regime undermined by 1995.

One of the most active proponents of this policy is India, a country unwilling to lose the right to own nuclear weapons at a time when neighboring China and other members of the so-called nuclear club have this right.

The diplomat says that Pakistan's policy seems to be "more flexible," inasmuch as Islamabad has put all of its nuclear facilities under the control of the International Automic Energy Agency (IAEA) and invited India to refrain from purchasing nuclear weapons under an appropriate bilateral agreement. Pakistan has been calling on the United Nations to establish a nuclear-free zone in Southern Asia, a project envisaging the nuclear-free status of the countries involved.

According to the Soviet expert, the "more appealing" stand adopted by Pakistan does not at all mean that that country has suspended all work on its nuclear program. The American press has carried many data proving such work is still under way. The Soviet diplomat believes India, too, may be taking efforts to prepare a base for the development of nuclear weapons, if not to assemble an A-bomb of its own.

Until recently, Pakistan's ally China was involved in this nuclear rivalry too. Now that China is expected to endorse the nuclear non-proliferation treaty shortly, one should expect "tougher political control" over this kind of activity, the diplomat said.

On the whole, he said, the situation had been notably improving during the past 6 months, with France and South Africa joining the non-proliferation treaty and with China ready to follow suit. Moscow welcomed the recent agreement between Argentina and Brazil to undertake n projects connected with A-bomb development. The two countries agreed to make their nuclear programs controllable by the IAEA, and one can expect them to refrain from undermining the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, the diplomat said.

The Soviet diplomats see one of their main missions in fostering non-proliferation in cooperation with the United States, Britain and other countries concerned. At the recent Soviet-U.S. summit meeting the sides despite a very tight scheduled found the time to reaffirm their intention to continue to cooperate in that field. The question of the non-proliferation of nuclear, missile and chemical weapons is the issue of the day.

The USSR has together with the United States and Britain succeeded in its efforts in Southern Africa to improve the situation involving the South African Republic and the "front-line states". One can hope that these countries will join the nuclear non- proliferation treaty. Currently there have been serious efforts to turn the Middle East into a nuclear-free zone. Due to Israel's position many Arab countries are not signatories to the treaty yet.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry's Arms Limitation and Disarmament Department says the issue of the day is to make the non- proliferation treaty open-ended in 1995.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry expert pointed to the fact that the term "non-proliferation" has been used far more often since 1989, at least in Soviet-U.S. relations. Whereas before it applied mostly to nuclear arms, today it has a bearing on missile technologies and chemical weapons. In the wake of the Paris conference on Security and cooperation in Europe it has begun to be applied to conventional arms as well.

The Soviet expert believes that at a future date an arms register will be compiled within the framework of the UN. Each country would let others know the amount of military hardware it has sold and name the buyers. The Soviet Union put forward a similar proposal at the recent Paris conference of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council on the control of arms exports and met with understanding on the part of the United States, Britain and France. The Chinese delegate gave the idea the cold shoulder. The Soviet diplomat says he hopes that Beijing's position will change.

Hypothetically, restrictions on arms sales are possible, however, at this stage everything many be confined to fine statements, for instance, the publication of the aforesaid register, because, as the Soviet Foreign Ministry's disarmament expert said, the U.S. Administration is bound hand and foot by the contracts for billions of dollars worth of arms supplies it concluded with some countries in the Middle East after the Persian Gulf crisis.

East Europe

Further Reportage on Situation in SFRY

CSCE Delegate on Sending Troops

LD0608171191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1613 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, Aug 6 (TANJUG)—Permanent Soviet CSCE delegate Yuriy Deryabin stated today that the possibility was not ruled out about a request to be made to the CSCE committee for sending out foreign troops to Yugoslavia.

The committee of 35 high CSCE officials would be recovened after the failure of the EC "troika" of ministers to ensure a ceasefire in Yugoslavia. The committee

would thus meet in Prague on Thursday to have Yugoslavia on its agenda for the second time.

Deryabin also stated in an interview to the TELEFAX agency [as received] in Moscow that the Soviet Union, at the committee meeting, would back up the principle of unity and territorial integrity of Yugoslavia.

Government Issues Statement

LD0608172591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1610 GMT 6 Aug 91

["Soviet Government Statement"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Aug (TASS)—Despite the measures taken by the SFRY Government and the recommendations adopted at the all- European level and despite the efforts of the European Community, the situation in Yugoslavia is worsening. Step by step the country is being drawn into a serious civil conflict—armed clashes between Serbs and Croatians are already in taking place.

At this moment, so dramatic for the peoples of Yugoslavia and Europe, the Soviet Union is appealing to the SFRY Presidency, the country's government and legislature, and to the highest representatives of the republics of Yugoslavia to halt the build-up of the crisis, to cease fire and bloodshed, to sit at the negotiating table, and to jointly look for a way out along the path of democratic reforms and a voluntary combination of interests for the sake of saving the country, which was created by all peoples of Yugoslavia in a joint complicated and difficult struggle for freedom.

There is no such situation, no such dispute that is not amenable to resolving through talks and mutual concessions. In Yugoslavia there are plans to reform the federal state. There is a government joint action program for the period of the three-month moratorium regarding Slovenia and Croatia. There is, finally, the far-reaching compromise drawn up at Brioni Island. Therefore, it is is difficult to understand those who are turning down talks and are continuing the policy of faits accomplis, who are acting according to the principle of "all or nothing," and who are tearing the country asunder. Displaying responsiblity and prudence, suppressing arrogance, setting aside old grievances, meeting one another halfway—this is now the supreme duty of every Yugoslav politician. And this needs to be done today—tomorrow may be too late.

Much in the Yugoslav crisis depends upon the position of the international community. The border between rendering good offices and interfering in internal affairs—which is unacceptable both from the viewpoint of international law and from the viewpoint of the possible consequences—is a very fine one. One has to be very careful here. Taking sides with one of the participants in the conflict unintentionally—and the more so if one were to do so because of selfish temptations—would mean finding oneself automatically in conflict with the other sides, both within and outside Yugoslavia. The conflict would then develop into a European-wide one.

Those who think a solution would be brought by recognition of the separation of Slovenia and Croatia cannot fail to see that this would not merely prolong but intensify the tragedy of the whole nation. For it is not just a question of the Slovenes and the Croatians, other peoples, too, live in these republics. Those who are now proposing to send international armed forces into Yugoslavia have evidently made a bad miscalculation about what could follow from that.

It is the duty of states to provide friendly assistance to Yugoslavia, acting strictly within the framework and in the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act and the Paris Charter for a new Europe. The Soviet Union is in favor of the CSCE opportunities being used in full and in the best possible way, but exclusively upon the basis of the agreed norms of the all-European process.

The Yugoslavs themselves must decide their own affairs and the present and future of their state, and they must do so peacefully, by democratic methods, and in accordance with justice, cherishing the values of the whole nation and remembering that they are fraternal peoples, of one birth by blood and by culture, having lived side by side for centuries and having been able to preserve themselves thanks to the fact that an awareness of their commonality and the unity of their historic destiny has been alive in spite of everything.

Delegate on Prague Conference

OW0608183091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1500 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Mikhail Mayorov, diplomatic correspondent; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] The CSCE Senior Officials Committee will meet at an additional session in Prague on August 8 to discuss the situation in Yugoslavia after the actual failure of the foreign ministers of Holland, Portugal and Luxembourg to settle the crisis in that country. The Soviet spokesman on the Committee, Mr. Yuriy Deryabin, said in his exclusive interview for DP that the 35 CSCE nations have to think of new measures to end the conflict in Yugoslavia. Much, he said, would depend on the report to be delivered by the three-member EC mission and on the decisions taken in Brussels by the foreign ministers of the EC countries who, too, are discussing the Yugoslav problem.

According to Mr. Deryabin, the three ministers acted in Yugoslavia on a mandate from the CSCE, and all talk that attempts were made to restrict the settlement of the Yugoslav crisis by the framework of the EC was groundless. The diplomat pointed out that the mission was appointed by the CSCE Senior Officials Committee and, althought it involved EC representatives only, it was open to other countries too.

On the possible introduction of foreign troops in Yugoslavia with a view to preventing further bloodshed there, Yuriy Deryabin said the CSCE was facing a problem of this kind for the first time ever. He did not rule out the possibility that troops might be sent to Yugoslavia, but only if that country's government asked for it. Should the question arise at the Prague conference, the CSCE senior officials would have to discuss essentially new models and decide what particular countries should send troops to Yugoslavia, and in what numbers.

The Soviet Union, Mr. Deryabin continued, objects to the Yugoslav problem being discussed by the UN Security Council as some other countries have suggested. The point is that the situation in Yugoslavia does not fall under the appropriate chapters of the UN Charter; besides, the measure would require the consent of the Yugoslav rpresentatives who are treating the project negatively.

According to the Soviet official, even if the Soviet Union's position changed slightly during the Prague session or under the impact of current events, it would remain basically the same: The USSR would continue supporting Yugoslavia's unity and territorial integrity, proceeding both from the agreements reached within the framework of the CSCE and from its own internal problems. Mr. Deryabin expressed concern over the fact that some of the CSCE nations have been showing a trend to overlook the principles of Yugoslav unity and integrity written down into the Berlin statement of foreign ministers. "We are viewing it as an alarming symptom," Yuriy Deryabin concluded.

Polish Defense Aide Cited on Krakow Meeting

PM0608154791 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 First Edition p 3

[Report by Lieutenant Colonel M. Kireyev: "Meeting in Krakow"]

[Text] Lietenant Colonel I. Czyzewski, representative of the Polish National Defense Ministry, has reported that a meeting of Polish, Czechoslovak, and Hungarian defense ministers held in Krakow 2 August this year "did not examine questions of creating a new military bloc." According to him, the sides discussed problems connected with the political changes in East Europe, arms reduction, the modernization of the Soviet military materiel with which those countries' armies are equipped, and arms purchases in the West.

Commentary on Bulgarian Treaty Extension Decision

LD0608154991 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] The Bulgarian parliament has decided not to prolong the current Soviet-Bulgarian treaty. Our commentary is by Anatoliy Potapov.

The decision by the Bulgarian parliament seems quite justified, and it would be senseless to see in this act any challenge to the Soviet Union. As is known, the existing treaty between the two countries expires on 4 August next year. If neither side decides on its dununciation [as heard] it will continue to be in force for another five years.

But both Sofia and Moscow are well aware of the new political realities shaped up in Europe and the world as well, and it's both sides that say there is no sense to prolong the treaty in its former shape. Both sides deem it necessary to hold a preparatory work which would take into account new reality, and the sides have chosen nonprolongation instead of denunciation. Qualitatively new inter-state documents are gradually becoming now the basis for the political and economic contacts between the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe. A Soviet-Romanian treaty on cooperation, neighborliness, and friendship has been signed, as well as the draft of a treaty with Hungary. Under drafting is a treaty with Poland. The signing of these documents to replace the former ones indicates that the political relationships between the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in no way break but are transformed into a new quality.

One thing should be mentioned. Some European countries have criticized one of the clauses in the Soviet-Romanian treaty. It allegedly violates the sovereignty of Romania. In what aspect? Some people believe that both sides have decided not to join any alliance targeted against the other side and not to allow their territory to the third states for aggression against the other partner of the treaty. And what is unacceptable in the clause? It's clear that the sides mean the commitments fixed in the Helsinki Final Act and in the Paris Charter. Of course, drafting new inter-state documents is a delicate matter requiring thorough work. But the establishment of the new age in the relationships between the Soviet Union and East European countries is evident, and it is in line with the European process.

Political & Social

Week's Political Events Reviewed, Discussed

PM0708131591 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Aug 91 First Edition p 1

["Seven Days" article by Vyacheslav Lukashevich: "Maybe Better Late Than Never?"]

[Text] Things are not all that bad, or so it would appear. Nocturnal meetings in Novo-Ogarevo are becoming a tradition, and a fruitful one at that. Another of these meetings took place at the end of July, this time between M. Gorbachev, B. Yeltsin, and N. Nazarbayev, and by 0300 hours that night (or early morning) a decision was reached mainly on Article 9 of the Union treaty. The presidents agreed to accept the option of a single-tier system of taxation combined with payment into the federal budget of a fixed percentage from the republic's revenue.

In a recent interview the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] president stated that the signing of the Union treaty would begin 20 August, and that Russia is ready for this. That means a green light opening the way to the new Union.

But all the same there is something preventing exultations, and a bitter aftertaste remains in the mouth from a last-minute realization: Does it really take six years to lift the "barriers...." But maybe better late than never?

Maybe. Now the Moscow summit between the USSR and U.S. Presidents has passed off with pomp and ceremony, as the saying goes, in complete mutual understanding and amid genial toasts. A number of important documents were signed, including the treaty on strategic offensive arms, which was about 10 years in the making. This treaty, which, in M. Gorbachev's opinion, will come in for criticism both in our country and across the ocean, was signed with special "Parker" pens inlaid with pieces of metal from Soviet and U.S. missiles that have already been destroyed.

The sunny Moscow weather, the strolls through the Kremlin, the flowers, the "Parker" pens, and the "Ducklings" sculpture brought by Mrs. B. Bush and installed near the Novodevichiy Monastery—of course, all this accorded with the noble goal that the two Presidents, M. Gorbachev and G. Bush, are pursuing: To reduce the nuclear potential on old Mother Earth. And primarily in our two countries, which possess the largest reserves of these terrible weapons.

But with what "rotten timing" did the "furious" A. Nevzorov burst onto the television screen and open our eyes in his "Panopticum": It turns out that nuclear science in our country has been disarming for some years already. World-renown scientists, academicians, and "Thrice Heroes [of the Soviet Union]" from the atomic center—the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Experimental Physics, known as "Arzamas-16"—were long ago abandoned at fate's mercy and ceased their scientific research. Scientists are especially perturbed by the problems of nuclear safety and the technological backup to nuclear disarmament, a sphere in which we are already 10-12 years behind America. Indeed, the exploitation of nuclear products itself requires constant scientific endeavor. Have we really learned nothing from Chernobyl?!

Having saluted the "revolution of pluralism" in Soviet society, the U.S. President ended his public lecture in the Institute of International Relations by exchanging firm handshakes with G. Arbatov, A. Yakovlev, and O. Kalugin. Saluting, so to speak, one part, but an ardent part, of this "pluralism" which has plunged the country into confusion and collapse.

After all, how can a normal person be expected to find his way in this "firework display of truths" which is constantly flaring up on the political horizon? In economics, politics, and culture—in hundreds of thousands of publications—only the speaker, only the writer himself is right, he is the last instance and the last judge. And if there is something "not to the point" or "out of line," it is instantly "forgotten" by the writer and the publication, as if they never had "let the cat out of the bag." The main elements are audacity, an earnest conclusion, and naturally, the target of the blow.

I cannot forget how, on the eve of the "presentation" of the Movement for Democratic Reforms, Academician A. Yakovlev, who had shortly before been appointed chairman of the Moscow City Assembly, published in IZVESTIYA his long-held suspicion that "the CPSU is going to give birth to a large number of parties." But time has passed and there has been no delivery yet. Actually, there have been a few "abortions." The CPSU Central Committee July plenum was held, and expectations once again failed to materialize, although many "departees" from the Communist Party were banking on this very plenum. But he who seeks shall always find, as the saying goes. A commentator in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA declares that the CPSU was saved from splitting by... the RSFSR president's decree on departyization. Well, thanks be to Boris Nikolayevich for this "service" to his former party. It could even be suspected that the Russian president, being partial to saving parties and movements, is thinking of receiving party membership card no. 1 from the Movement for Democratic Reforms, or at least from the party that the vice president is actively creating, and may—who knows?—join his local party club. Speaking of the decree on departyization, he stated after his meeting with G. Bush that he had discussed the decree with Gorbachev, and that Gorbachev, "so as not to destroy the certain stability in our mutual relations, will not move to repeal this decree." So Yeltsin will not waive his principles after all.

However, as USSR and RSFSR People's Deputy G. Starovoytova said in NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA [Independent Newspaper] 30 July, "Yeltsin has already got to

know the taste of democracy and, moreover, he (like many of us) is a hostage of his popularity."

A strange formula, isn't it: Popularity is a guarantee of democracy? The whole interview, which takes up an entire page, is equally strange. Let me cite just one fragment, which deals with the 1 May demonstration in Red Square. Now Starovoytova recalls that Gorbachev allegedly spoke of frenzied extremists who were intending to storm the Kremlin and the Lubyanka.

"He is, after all, no fool...", was the puzzled journalist's riposte.

"I have been watching him for a long time," the people's deputy rejoined. "My own opinion is that any person in such a post (in this terribly vast country) becomes something of an Ivan the Terrible...."

There are quite a few such "stern observations" on the page. The USSR president gets it in particular for being "not in control of the situation," and "sometimes shutting himself in his office for days on end and receiving no one"; he is also "a hostage of the military-industrial complex," and all in all, "Gorbachev is already history."

But who is left?

"I see now this crazy adoration of Yeltsin. Indeed... toward me as well, especially in the regions whose deputy I am: You know, I am sometimes frightened at how much people love me. When I see—the crowd runs toward you, and could crush you out of love, I feel sorry for the crowd, and for myself as well.

But the interviewee's fears are in vain. On behalf of the Russian president at any rate. Nowadays, according to press reports, he has a new security setup. And in addition to the traditional teams of bodyguards, cooks, chauffeurs, and medical personnel, now there are teams for checking the freshness of food products and the quality of cooked dishes, as well as testers of means of transportation and a network of so-called "agents on the runway" abroad. And all this costs, according to the information of specialists, just 3 million rubles.

So Yeltsin can feel safe even outside the Fatherland. But what about Starovoytova? "You know, it is impossible to walk along the streets," she confesses in the same interview, "without someone coming up to me and asking for an autograph or with a request: Only abroad can I relax and simply stand outside a store and lick an ice cream—though even there I am recognized; there are large numbers of Russians everywhere. I was in the north of England, in York Cathedral... and suddenly three women pounced on me with a scream, shouting that they were my voters...."

Actually, some other "deputies for democracy" have found the "popularity" syndrome becoming "a proof of democratism." Of course, this fame was not gained easily: It was gained in squares, at the parliamentary rostrums, indeed, in the newspaper "spaces" as well. It began with anticommunist and anti-Lenin statements, with the struggle for power, for the Army. Everything was put into play—from downright slander to insinuations. There was also the pre-presidential stage. Now, it would appear, there is virtually nothing to "struggle" for, and statements of a different, a more sensible leaning are appearing. It is acknowledged that "Democratic Russia" is falling apart, that the democrats are incapable of feeding the country, that certain leaders in the republics, having gained power through democratic movements, are establishing a "democratic dictatorship," and so on. The democrats themselves, let me stress, are saying this. But not all of them!

Take Colonel V. Martirosyan who has not tired yet of "struggling." Only recently, at the congress of Ukrainian officers, Vilen Arutyunovich became the "head" of the republic union of officers committee. The Ukrainian republic, let me note. "I will utter no idle words," Martirosyan told journalists at the congress. "We will create an organization that can defend the interests of the people of the Ukraine. The (Soviet Army?) colonel promised not to touch the nuclear potential, and spoke of the need to acquire tanks, airplanes, and helicopters.

The colonel developed his ideas the other day in Lvov too. He met City Soviet Chairman V. Shpitser and spoke by telephone to V. Chornovil, and came to the conclusion that the central mass media are not covering the political situation in democratic Galichina objectively. Moreover, the deputy formed the impression that here, in the western region, someone (?) is preparing a second Nagornyy Karabakh. What is the solution? And Vilen Arutyunovich pointed to it: It lies in creating a national guard. In his opinion, 25 brigades should be formed in the Ukraine; in other words, a military unit of this kind will be billeted in every oblast center....

I will not dwell on his program in its entirety because the tragic experience of armed confrontation in the Baltic region, Moldova, Georgia (South Ossetia), and Azerbaijan, and indeed, in Pan Martirosyan's native Armenia persistently comes to mind.

Let us recall that not so long ago it was the practice to class even extremist and nationalist statements by people's deputies in the category of "political statements." The idea was that people would have their say and then calm down. But as our unpredictable life suggests, these talkers are not all that inoffensive. And we should realize this. Better to realize it late than never.

Supreme Soviet Chairman Lukyanov on Union Treaty

PM0608143691 Paris LE FIGARO in French 3-4 Aug 91 p 4

[Interview with Anatoliy Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, by Pierre Bocev in Moscow—date not given]

[Text] Moscow—[Bocev] According to the Kremlin, the work on the Union treaty, in other words the definition of the USSR of the future, is virtually complete. What exactly is the position?

[Lukyanov] I have taken part in all the Novo-Ogarevo meetings. We must not overestimate this "Nine plus One" process because those negotiations simply produced a statement of intention. Aside from the Ukraine, which postponed its examination of the text until September, the republics appointed delegations of plenipotentiaries to sign the treaty. In this process, each Supreme Soviet adopted a series of proposed amendments to the Novo-Ogarevo text, and it will need further discussion.

All that brings us to the fall. It is then that the Union treaty will be adopted. It will be adopted by the Congress of USSR People's Deputies because it is in that expanded parliament and only there that the 15 federated republics and the 21 autonomous republics, which have also proclaimed their sovereignty, are represented.

[Bocev] Who will sign? Who will refuse?

[Lukyanov] Nobody, not even in the six republics which are not involved in the Novo-Ogarevo process, has pledged not to become wiser....

When it comes to autonomy, some people are reluctant, but when it comes to talking about the economy, nobody is missing. The Latvian government chief, for instance, was the first to sign the anticrisis program drawn up by the cabinet.

The economy dictates the rest. In the USSR's case, it is 80 percent integrated and excessively monopolized. If an enterprise closes, another 700 suffer because they depend on its production. And that is true for around 200 products throughout the country.

A businessman is not interested in whether he deals with one particular republic or another. He seeks products be they in South Africa, Benelux, or Sakhalin. Having said that, politically speaking, we will have a federation, not a confederation. We will not accept a confederation!

[Bocev] "We?"

[Lukyanov] Yes, we! We means the Soviet people who said yes to the concept of a renewed federation during the 17 March referendum. Hotheads can always try to oppose the people's will, but that will not work. A federation is a united state, a confederation is a union of states. At all events, our federation is special, even in the existing Constitution, in which the republics have the right to secede. With regard to whether it is a question of republics or states, that is a false debate—the republic is a state form, as is the monarchy. In short, our union of sovereign republics is a union of sovereign states.

[Bocev] That union will be chaired by a president, under the terms of the "Nine plus One" agreement in its present form.... Some people say that he will not be elected by universal suffrage, but by a college of voters, according to the American way. What is the position?

[Lukyanov] If none of the representatives at Novo-Ogarevo goes back on his signature, there will be an election. It will not be an American-style election. Nothing in the USSR will be done Western-style, in the American way or in the Japanese way.

The Countdown Has Started for Yeltsin

[Bocev] With this in mind, what is the future of the existing institutions. Can the Congress of People's Deputies in particular—that colossus of 2,250 members, one third of which are elected by "social organizations" like the CPSU—survive?

[Lukyanov] This is clearly a system designed for the transitional period in which we are living. For this stage, the Congress of People's Deputies was absolutely vital; it served as a safety valve at tricky moments. And, without the third not elected by universal suffrage which lily-white purists are now criticizing, men like Andrey Sakharov, elected on the Academy of Sciences list, would never have become deputies....

It was clear that after a certain period, this structure will have to be abandoned. But the time has not yet come. The Congress must still sign the Union treaty; then, it will take a minimum of six months to draw up the new Constitution and have it adopted by means of a referendum; on the basis of this Constitution, there will be a new electoral law, then it will take at least four months to organize the election; only then will the Congress of People's Deputies transfer its powers to the new institutions.

[Bocev] With regard to the radical reformers, Boris Yeltsin has just established his offices on this corridor, alongside yours. Are you not afraid that he will one day occupy the whole building?

[Lukyanov] It is easy to be in the opposition, easy to criticize. In Yeltsin's case, control by public opinion is just starting. Now that he is in power, he will have to show his responsibility.

He can no longer blame the "center" for all ills. The countdown has started for him.

[Bocev] One of the key questions between Yeltsin and Gorbachev relates to private land ownership.

[Lukyanov] It is a more a burning question in theory than in practice. The USSR has adopted a series of laws which will implement the reform process, particularly denationalization and demonopolization. Despite the new forms of ownership which are emerging, I am convinced that our country will maintain a powerful state sector. Take the example of Britain—it took it 12 years to denationalize 17 percent of enterprises. If anybody thinks that we will do it quicker, he knows nothing about our country's real situation.

[Bocev] One of the possible ways of speeding up reform, in everybody's view, is the conversion of the military-industrial complex.

[Lukyanov] In this sphere, cooperation with the West can reach colossal proportions. And, if Europe or America do not make haste, the "little dragons" of Asia are in a great hurry.

Government Readies Civil Legislation

PM0708081591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 91 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed report under general heading: "In the USSR Cabinet of Ministers"]

[Text] In execution of the USSR Supreme Soviet Resolution "On Bringing Into Force the Fundamentals of USSR and Republic Civil Legislation," the USSR Cabinet of Ministers has instructed the USSR Ministry of Justice and other ministries and departments to prepare a number of draft laws and legislative acts which are necessary to ensure the operation of the fundamentals of civil legislation. These include draft laws on general principles of the organization and activity of joint-stock companies and other economic societies and associations, and on the immunity of the state and its property; a draft legislative act on the procedure for registering legal entities which are state organs of the USSR and legal entities which belong to the USSR Armed Forces, and the border, internal, and railroad troops; a draft USSR Cabinet of Ministers resolution on the procedure for keeping a single unionwide register of legal entities; and other documents.

USSR ministries and departments have been instructed to review and repeal by 1 January 1992 normative acts issued by them which contradict the fundamentals of USSR and republic civil legislation.

The USSR Ministry of Justice has been instructed to monitor the realization of the aforesaid work.

'Solidarity Fund' for Communists Set Up

PM0708092991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jul 91 Second Edition p 2

[Report by O. Voznesenskiy and editorial office postscript: "Solidarity Fund"]

[Text] Solidarity Fund is the name given to the special account for voluntary contributions and donations opened at the USSR State Bank's Central Transactions Administration.

It all started with an appeal to the CPSU Central Committee from Communists working in a department of the Minsk Vavilov Plant. Expressing their anguish and concern at the fate of the Communist Party, they proposed that solidarity be shown with Communists of the Baltic, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, and the western oblasts of the Ukraine who found themselves in a difficult position, and that a special account be opened. The plant workers themselves, the appeal says, are ready to transfer one day's pay into it.

A similar proposal was made to the CPSU Central Committee by D.D. Yevstafyev from Leningrad, who contributed 500 rubles of his personal savings to the CPSU budget via the Leningrad Obkom [Oblast Party Committee]. In his letter Dmitriy Dmitriyevich writes that he has a deep faith in the justice of socialist ideals and that his desire to help Communists is a response to the increasing attacks made upon the CPSU.

The initiative shown by Communists and nonparty people has been supported. An account has been opened. As it builds up, resources will be assigned from it on a targeted basis, in addition to allocations from the CPSU budget, to the communist parties of the union republics, in light of the sociopolitical situation obtaining in the regions, for the provision of material assistance to Communists, particularly CPSU veterans, for the acquisition of free passes for treatment in sanatoriums, and for other charitable actions. Responsibility for assigning the money is vested in the CPSU Central Committee Financial and Economic Activity Commission.

From the Editorial Office: The "Communists' Solidarity Fund," Special Account No. 700414, is lodged at the USSR State Bank Central Transactions Administration, Routing Number 299112.

Supreme Soviet's Laptev on Current Issues

PM0608145091 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 29, 21-28 Jul 91 p 5

[Interview with Ivan Laptev, Chairman of the Soviet of the Union, USSR Supreme Soviet, by chief editor Yegor Yakovlev; date, place not given: "The Moment of Choice for Everyone"]

[Text] Yegor Yakovlev: We have known each other for a quarter of a century, ever since the dim and distant times when you started your journalist career as a supernumerary at the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA. And, I must admit I have always been amazed by one quality of yours: toleration to conflict. Several years ago, when nearly all the chief editors of central publications were siding either with Aleksandr Yakovlev or with Yegor Ligachev, you managed to maintain tactful, professional relations with both. But recently you have somewhat betrayed this principle. The tension between you and Anatoliy Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, is obvious to all. Especially after your disagreement over the newspaper IZVESTIYA. Everyone can be tolerant, but everyone has his limit as well. Whenever it is reached, a person cannot act as he did before.

Ivan Laptev: I have always aspired for calm and mutually respectful relations with both superiors and subordinates, in the belief that everyone has a right to his

position. Sometimes, however, a person finds himself compelled to make a choice. Not from the standpoint of who is closer to him, but of what he is going to stand up for, and what to take up the cudgels against. Even if this is unbearably difficult, you have to find both strength and audacity in yourself. It is not just me, I believe, but many other deputies, who have felt their moment, and the need to decide for themselves - for the last time perhaps - whether they want to continue what we started in 1985 amidst such enthusiasm, or not. This is what motivates my actions, including, my decision to become a co-chairman of the Movement for Democratic Reforms.

Ye.Ya.: The latest conflict, linked to the newspaper IZVESTIYA, was expressed in the appointments made in its editorial office. But, as we all know, everything concrete merely reflects general trends and contradictions. So what is the gist of contradiction here?

I.L.: The question is posed not quite correctly. I have repeatedly emphasized and take this occasion to repeat: it comes down to one thing—whether or not the actions taken are lawful. And it is unimportant whom they concern—the newspaper IZVESTIYA or, say the Hammer and Sickle plant. There can be no transgressions of the law, however minute or huge—they either are or aren't. The Supreme Soviet—the guarantor and architect of legality—cannot afford to overlook the any infringements on it. I experienced the greatest shock of my life when the Supreme Soviet found it unnecessary to ascertain whether the law was observed or not in the story with IZVESITYA. One of the delegates said: we are all for legality, but first and foremost we are for Soviet power. This is horrible, Soviet power is being proposed to the law. We have already left behind those times when efficiency was more important than the law, we remember what it cost us, and now we are advocating the same thing.

Ye.Ya.: But why do you think the Supreme Soviet was reluctant to reach out to the bottom, so to speak, and establish the truth?

I.L.: There are many reasons. Let me mention just two. Many see glasnost as a lady who is pleasant in every respect.

Ye.Ya.: One of the leaders of the CPSU Central Committee one persuaded me that we needed only that glastnost which was useful to us.

I.L.: When a deputy comes to the microphone and insists that the paper should tackle a question in the way which seems correct to him, he forgets: there are 23 groups of deputies in parliament and hence 23 ideas of what is right and what is wrong. And the second thing: having passed the law on the press, some deputies quickly forgot its provisions, while others evidently believe—if they themselves have adopted it, they can also afford to ignore some aspects of it. The law says, for example, that no one can make the Editorial Board publish an article rejected by it. And nevertheless now and then one hears complaints at sessions: why doesn't the paper publish this material or that...?

Ye.Ya.: Your election to the post of Chairman of the Soviet of the Union was accompanied with long drawn-out debates, and even the elections took place several times. All this, it would seem, bore witness to the significance of the head of one of the Supreme Soviet's two chambers: To what extent has this been borne out during the year and a half that you have held this office?

I.L.: As far as the voting itself is concerned, afterwards many deputies came up to me and explained that they had voted not against me as the chamber's leader, but against my leaving Izvestiya. Now, I believe, they understood the significance of this resignation better than me.... I, however, began my new job with as much enthusiasm as I always have. And I can say: a lot has been done, I have assisted in the adoption of important laws—they were passed with great difficulties—primarily in the humanitarian sphere, but in the economic as well. But another thing has also become clear. Given the Supreme Soviet's present-day structure, both chambers are not only equivalent and equipollent, they are to a certain extent also identical inasmuch as they consider the same questions. Consequently, each of the chambers is not independent, although they must be according to the Constitution, but rather, each amounts to one half of the Supreme Soviet. I think that after the signing of the Union treaty, when a new Supreme Soviet has been elected, the chambers will each be endowed with different functions, on a broad range of issues. Then the Chairman of the Soviet (Chamber) will have a more meaningful role. And these capabilities largely depend on the structure of the Supreme Soviet's apparat. It rests entirely on the chairman typical of our traditional pyramid of administration—everything has been projected towards the summit. Needless to say, decision on major issues are being made by the three of us. Yet practice has shown: the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet can do without chamber leaders, whereas we can't do without him.

Ye.Ya.: You have had occasion to chair very turbulent sittings of the Supreme Soviet, repulsing attacks by deputies primarily from the Soyuz group. Will you tell us how this group has essentially determined parliament's face?

I.L.: I can't agree that it is the Soyuz group that now defines the Supreme Soviet's identity. Indeed, it is a very influential group. Yet its strength is not its own, but acquired by enfeebling of the left wing, which had both the methodology and tactics needed to push its ideas through at congresses and sessions. Now these tactics have been adopted by Soyuz. And, of course, it wields appreciable influence on all work, being able to arest some issues and expedite others.

Ye.Ya.: Nothing happens without reason. You speak about the enfeeblment of the left wing, but the Interregional Group has never had the support in the top power echelons that Soyuz has gained. I once asked Gorbachev: why, despite numerous invitations, had he never met with the Interregional Group? I remember his answer was roughly the following: I was going to on repeated occasions, but each time the interregionals came up with something which ruled out the possibility of a meeting. Until recently, the action of Soyuz did not embarrass the President of the USSR too much, to say nothing about the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, who personally contributed to the birth of Soyuz, nurtured it, and favoured it in every respect.

I.L.: To a certain extent the Soyuz group came under the wardship of the Supreme Soviet's leadership and even, if my memory doesn't fail me, was received twice by the President. And after these meetings, delegates from this group publicly declared that they had compelled the President to fire a minister or to do one or another thing. Thanks to such blessings, Soyuz gained strength, of course. But now the tiger is running in the opposite direction. A few weeks ago the newspaper Politika, which Soyuz publishes, featured an article entitled "Now at last he goes". In my view, it is the most violent anti-presidential contribution ever to have appeared in our press. Now that Baltic deputies' seats are vacant, and many deputies have left to fill goverenment posts, Soyuz's role may continue to increase. Today Soyuz is already in a position to demand the convocation of an extraordinary congress of people's deputies and dictate its agenda. I think that we shall live to see a congress where the question of confidence in the President will be posed again. Obvious preparations are underway for this. And this is being done with intent to disrupt the consensus, which has barely been formed. In general, all deputies demand an explanation from the President. But whereas some are ready to help him, if he would accept their help, others declare that they don't need such a president. The latter circumstance—I am convinced—could bring about very dramatic upheavals.

As you know, a short while ago the President rather sharply condemend the activities of this group of deputies, using the same set of reproaches which he had previously levelled at other deputy groups—the interregionals, for example.

Ye.Ya.: This is highly significant. The President might have used the same expressions because Soyuz had in itself been nurtured to weaken the influence of democratic deputies. Indeed, the interregionals often ran ahead, but the very march of life has borne out their correctness through Article 6 of the Constitution, the sovereignty of the Republics, and the privatization of state property. But feeding a chained tiger to guard yourself against democratic demands is great political immorality. Sooner or later one is bound to pay for it. From the very beginning it was clear that the Soyuz leaders like Alksnis, Petrushenko and their ilk had nothing in common either with democratization, or with a state committed to the legal code—with anything that was constantly being proclaimed by the country's leaders.

I.L.: there's a saying, not a single good deed goes unpunished. Moreover, results always differ from concepts. Life affects everyone: demarcation proceeds at a rapid pace and deputies transform themselves from what they were, say, a year ago. If, however, we digress from the Soyuz group of deputies and speak about conservative fores in general, until recently the President has maintained, and possibly still maintains, that these forces are still with him.

Ye.Ya.: In the same boat....

I.L.: That they are marching along the path of perestroyka, perhaps understanding it differently in some respects. But as I convinced myself at the latest Central Committee Plenum and then in the parliament hall, any progress has long since ended for these forces. Some are frankly reactionary, reminiscing about the good old days with anguish.

Ye.Ya.: Can the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, who supported Soyuz so strongly, influence this group today?

I.L.: No, he can't. Soyuz has transgressed the old framework of coordination and consultation. It has got down to business, proceeding from its own understanding, or rather from the understanding of people who play the dominant parts in it.

Ye.Ya: This is the trap about which I have already spoken. A trap for those who, while professing democratic inclinations, nevertheless support revenge-seeking forces.

I.L.: It's hard to disagree with this. When strategy is being sacrificed to tactics, the latter will sooner or later turn into strategy. And this leads into an impasse, from which one needs to have enough resolve to extricate oneself. Otherwise, just one thing remains: surrender to the mercy of the victor.

Ye.Ya.: Will you tell me what kind of a mood you are in?

I.L.: Honestly, not very good. I often recall how everything began in 1985. And despite sometimes vicious criticism to the effect that we have not been able to achieve anything, I see that people have become utterly different—in their world view, their realization of their own dignity and their broad outlook. On the other hand, there is a growing number of those who were previously enthusiastic, but have now been either expelled or willing left their deputy seats, returning to their writing desk and to previous occupations. Together with them goes all the romantic idealism, which was inherent in our time. Fatigue is accumulating. Our country has found itself so firmly entrenched in the Stalinist system of universal regimentation, suspicion and mistrust that it wreaks havoc to any good undertakings, arresting them at every step. My mood is also affected by our failure to ensure from the beginning, and even now, that people

understand that reforms are our only salvation. Ever more frequently one hears, "Was it worth starting all this?" Whenever I hear this, even from my close friends, it kills me.

There have also been many subjective moments which do not add to my spirits. Work in the newspaper was more enriching for me. I would like to return to IZVESTIYA, whose staff I have carefully assembled and who have now find themselves in a difficult position [as received].

Ye.Ya.: Actually, in a rather tragic position, on the verge of total collapse.

I.L.: Yes, I know that more than 50 Izvestiya staffers carry letters of resignation in their pockets. Writing recently in NOVYY MIR magazine Viktor Yaroshenko said that he is sometimes gripped with pain and despair. This happens when you obviously need to do something, but you cannot do it. I feel much the same way. From my colleagues on the Presidium, I have heard that IZVESTIYA is on the list of publications that are against the Presidium's line and against the Supreme Soviet as such. I can't understand this. The President has publicly and repeatedly declared that the paper follows his line. But now it appears that it conflicts with the Supreme Soviet's line. Lately, I have given a lot of thought to this.

Ye.Ya.: That's evidently how things really stand if we remember the Supreme Soviet's response to Valentin Pavlov's report and to the intimidating statements made by three ministers.

I.L.: Then it is all the more imperative to repeat what we started our talk with: the moment of choice has come. Our parliamentary terms are quickly concluding. We shall be replaced with other deputies, and different leaders will come to the front. New problems are bound to emerge, but old ones will also be raised—I want to re-emphasize this. Every one of us will have to answer—primarily to himself: how has he acted, how has he fulfilled his duty? We shall be left alone with our conscience vis-a-vis these old problems. One of perestroika's major victories, as i see it, is that a person has to ever increasingly ask himself: how has he behaved and what has his attitude been?

Internal Affairs Ministry Briefing on Crime Noted

LD0608205491 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Report by S. Milyanchikov from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] At a briefing at the USSR Internal Affairs Ministry today, Colonel General Shilov, first deputy minister of internal affairs, said that the investigation into the Lithuanian incident has been entrusted to an investigative group headed by Gennadiy Kotlyarov, deputy head of the Criminal Investigation Department. As yet, the investigation has not yielded any positive results, even though, according to Shilov, vigorous investigative work is being carried out. All possible versions are being examined.

On the whole, the briefing was devoted to the results of the fight against crime in the past half year. The militia continues working as before and crime continues increasing as before. The number of crimes has risen by almost one-fifth, with the greatest increase produced by property crimes: theft, embezzlement, and robbery. Going into the streets in the evening remains dangerous, despite the fact that in 500 towns, joint patrols are being carried out. This has yielded only a small improvement in the crime rate.

Anti-Crime Decree Shows Results

OW0708021091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1500 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The number of the registered crimes has increased on 19.9 percent in comparison with the same period of the last year for the first six months of 1991 in the USSR (the number of grave crimes has increased on 7.7 percent accordingly). 53 percent of the crimes were revealed. The First Deputy Interior Minister of the USSR, General-Colonel Ivan Shilov informed about it in the briefing in the Soviet Foreign Ministry on Tuesday.

He also said that the number of crimes committed with fire-arms has increased almost on a third part. According to Shilov about 15,000 "barrels" are wanted now. But he stressed that nobody knew the number of arms which "circulate" in the USSR. So the general-colonel proposed to adopt a law on the arms control.

General Shilov said more than 70 armed groups have been liquidated since the Soviet President's decree on discovery and suppression of illegal armed formations was put into practice. 56,000 fire-arms, 1.5 million units of ammunition and almost 5,000 tons of demolition charges have been withdrawn.

Overall Crime Rate Growing

LD0608205991 Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—Prevention measures carried out by the Soviet Interior Ministry to protect life and health of citizens have considerably decreased the number of dangerous crimes against people.

However, the social and economic crisis and the weakening of the executive authority structures prevented the curbing of the overall crime rate growth, a briefing at the Soviet Interior Ministry was told today.

The briefing was attended by heads of militia and police bodies of Union republics and central administrative boards.

Over 1.5 million serious crimes have been registered during the first six months period of 1991, which exceeded the corresponding index of last year by 20 per cent.

At the same time, the crime situation was deteriorating throughout the Soviet Union. It was the worst in Lithuania, Estonia, and the Urals, Far Eastern and Volgo-Vyatskiy regions of the Russian Federation.

Crimes with the use of firearms have increased by one-third. 15,000 firearms are still being searched for.

There were also positive results sited at the briefing. For instance, the investigating bodies exposed 60,000 dangerous crimes more than last year, despite the increased amount of work.

Fight against organised crime has intensified as well. Almost 600 formations, guilty of over 50 murders, 270 robberies and assaults, have been eliminated.

Citizens To Own Means of Self-Defense

LD0608224291 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] A department of the Soviet Interior Ministry has drafted a law on arms control. For the first time in Soviet legal practice a whole section deals with self-defense. This will give Soviet citizens the right to defend themselves from criminals. The draft officially recognizes as self-defense irritating arms, tear gases and pain causing devices that should be sold at specialized stores to local residents. According to the draft practically all Soviet citizens, as of 16, will be allowed to purchase means of self-defense.

Journalist Leader Sagalayev Interviewed

PM0608160091 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 29, 21-28 Jul 91 p 16

[Report on interview with Edward Sagalayev, Chairman of the Union of Soviet Journalists, by Yelena Chekalova; date, place not given: "Godfather"]

[Text] Eduard Sagalayev, now 45, Chairman of the Union of Soviet Journalists, the former head of the youth editorial office of Central TV, former director of the Vremya news programme, former Vice Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting (Gosteleradio) and the author of the ruined project TV-21st Century, has been the "godfather" of many of Central TV's achievements in the 1980s: "Jolly Fellows", "12th Floor", "Vzglyad" (Look), "Seven Days" and "TSN" (televised news service). Now his name is being associated with the newest TV sensation—a project run by the first private telecorporation.

Sagalayev is certainly the head of a TV clan. As soon as a new project appeared a new team had to be formed. The project could be Sagalayev's personal idea, or come "from below", with Sagalayev acting as sponsor. But his involvement always made the survivors rush to offer their services. And there are few such people on Central TV.

It's his calling to be a patron. This is evidenced by the nicknames given him at the Ostankino studio: Saggy (after the pattern of Ronnie and Gorby, at the youth programme's office) or simply Sam (Sagalayev Eduard Mikhailovich, at the Vremya news programme).

At a plenum of the Moscow City Party Committee Sergey Tarasov, deputy secretary of the party committee at the State company for TV and Radio Broadcasting, angrily remarked that Central TV was full of Sagalayev's antiparty personnel. The main "TV boss" of the late 80s now occupies the posh study of the head of our professional union, who is busy God knows where. Sagalayev has changed his nomenklatura style blue suit for striking casuals. The last time we met—about a year and a half ago—our meeting deeply disappointed me: he gave a sharp interview on the reasons for closing the Seven Days programme and then hysterically withdrew this material before publication.

"Why did you do that?" I had to start with what affected me personally.

"At that time I still believed in the salutary nature of compromises and round tables. I also believed that in the long run it was possible to come to terms with the leadership of Gosteleradio. For a very long time I still hoped that party- and government-dominated TV could become state-owned and even people-owned. When I finally realized that Central TV belonged to the party apparat I quit. It's a form of slavery which demands that you sacrifice everything—even your personal life. I remember one of my last talks with the first vice-chairman. I asked him where the order to conceal information about Chernobyl came from. His reply was: the party. And the lie about miners' strikes? I was told: that was the party, too. He proudly sacrificed his own honour for the sake of party fraternity."

Q.: Have you now left the party?

A.: No, I haven't.

Q.: Why not, if you're so disappointed in it?

A.: I've never been satisfied with it, either. No one has—this is all rubbish. Simply leaving the party is no virtue. Moreover, I can't rid myself of a feeling of guilt. For so many years I had privileges...Now I have to help prevent any new devastating move made by the party apparat.

Q.: But suppose you again come to understand this was yet another illusion?

A.: All things considered, the whole of our life amounts to parting with illusions. I nearly worshipped Gorbachev. Now I know that no one is going to give me freedom and independence. the road to freedom traverses all we have endured—compromises with our

conscience, prison camps and hatred. Tolstoy used to say there had been several Tolstoys during his long life, but the real one existed in his final years. This can be said of anyone. In the past two years I've become a different Sagalayev. Maybe not the one I'd like to be. But at any rate I seem to have discarded many character traits I'm ashamed of.

Q.: For example?

A.: Well, first and foremost, readiness to strike a deal with my conscience. I don't do this so readily now.

Q.: Are you sure you've severed your links with the party?

A.: I was recently asked: how would I act if offered Kravchenko's post? I can't, of course, give a watertight guarantee I'd refuse it. Weakness is only human. But I still have plenty of ambition. I'm comforted by just one thing: "they" will no longer offer me this kind of temptation.

Q.: Do you mean "they" are disappointed in you?

A.: Absolutely. They see their kith and kin in anyone who says one thing in the kitchen, another thing from the rostrum, but acts altogether differently. Such are their corporate ethics. Unpredictability is the main vice for them. And they know for sure: Sagalayev might come up with anything. He'll accept a top post with special privileges and suddenly imagine he's a free man. That he never sold himself.

Q.: When did they lose faith in you?

A.: It was gradual. The 12th Floor programme was discussed twice by the Politburo, and Seven Days was actually taken off after a decision by the Politburo. When I was made to leave my job at the youth editorial office and given the post of chief editor of the Vremya news programme it was a chance for me to strike root in the system. After all, the system needs competent, professional people. And without undue modesty I'm fairly good at doing whatever I put my mind to.

Q.: Does this explain the career of a boy from Samarkand?

A.: Yes, it does. I got in the public eye and a part was allotted to me. The system has been built in accordance with biological laws. It requires not only executives and slaves, but also high priests, guardians and leaders. As well as people with ideas. I can soberly appraise my creative potential. And I'm aware of my limitations, too. There is one indisputable quality in me: I can recognize and value talented people.

Q.: Yes, it was you that found Lyubimov, politkovskiy and Listyev. You made a star out of modet behind-the-screen editor Tanya Mitkova. But why do all these talented people feel, besides gratitude, that you abandoned them at the most difficult moment?

A.: If they really think so they are simply naive—in the best way of course. Like everyone else, I'm involved in a constant struggle with myself. I also have the elementary desire to survive. The point is that people forgive weaknesses in themselves, but not in their leaders. What did they want me to do? Go to the stake? Would they have followed me? Let them answer that first. I'm not sure they would. But I've never demanded this of anyone. The demands were made solely on me.

Q.: What do you mean by "go to the stake"?

A.: In Soviet terms it means being left without work and losing the possibility of influencing social change.

Q.: And you could no longer conceive of yourself in a position of "no influence"? Would you be happy as a rank-and-file journalist?

A.: I'm a fatalist. My destiny has probably taken its optimal shape. In my youth I worked in a city newspaper, wrotes poems, even dreamed of becoming a writer. But my own taste was in conflict with my creative efforts. In all probability, organizing creative processes—something I've been doing for most of my life—is what I do best.

Q.: You've never suffered any real loss. Things have never been really bad for you.

A.: And you'd very much like me to be in a bad way, to pass through a period of failure, or better still, tragedy, wouldn't you? Outward prosperity is always outward. The most important things, as we all know, are tranquillity and freedom. And in this sense I'm less content than many others. I can't say I've sufferend unduly. But there are things which it's impossible to change and which it's impossible to kick free from.

Q.: So perhaps it's better to forgive yourself for everything and start living a normal life—from scratch, as it were?

A.: I've thought of this on more than one occasion. But for me one way of forgiving myself is to do something.

Q.: What have you and your Union done for TV journalists who have lost the possibility to work on the air due to their convictions?

A.: It has never been the purpose of the Journalists Union to defend its members. We lodged an official protest in defence of Lithuania's TV journalists whose place of work is guarded by submachine gunners—but what's the use? To become effective, the Union must be transformed into a trade union standing up for its members' interests vis-a-vis the employer. But this process will probably take time to bear fruit. I've had enough of hitting my head against a wall. I've decided to try a different method—to build something entirely new which will ultimately oust the old.

Q.: The current project was ironically referred to as "private television named after Sagalayev" in the newspaper "Rabochaya Tribuna".

A.: Just imagine: even after this hostile article, and after similar rejoinders on radio and TV, I have been showered with proposals.

Q.: but "Rabochaya Tribuna" believed this "private enterprise" would make the public indignant, didn't it?

A.: Yes, it did, but things have turned out quite the contrary. I understand that something very serious has occurred in our society. People are tired of the state monopoly—including that on information. Today they are more willing to believe a private individual than a state which adapts TV to serve its own interests.

Q.: So you're really opening up a private TV service?

A.: No, of course, not. It's a question of setting up the first TV corporation free of state ownership. The founders will, as a rule, invest not money, but intellectual property.

Q.: And you will be president?

A.: Yes.

Q.: Will you name the principal shareholders?

A.: No one will have a controlling interest. Even foreign partners. Negotiations are underway with the scientific-industrial union headed by Volskiy, with Moscow's Mayor, Vladimir Pozner and Tatyana Mitkova. But it's still premature to publish the list of founders.

Q.: What does the new creative concept mean?

A.: This must be TV for viewers. Every programme will be tested by its ratings. In fact, the concept has been developed in the framework of the educative project TV-21st Century, complemented with a news service which must become the main component of telecasting. I would like to create TV with a high degree of spectator credibility, and this is only possible in a non- governmental structure, since the desire to impose its own image is natural for any government, whether totalitarian or democratic.

Q.: Sounds interesting. Incidentally, all your previous ideas were also attractive...

A.: You know, every one of us still has a chance ahead of him. In the past I rarely thought about death. Now I live with thoughts about it. And just imagine,, I have become much happier—in the sense that I'm getting rid of unnecessary vanity. As long as you live there's a chance. Every new day will become your past tomorrow.

Journalist Attacks Strictures on Press Freedom

PM0608144691 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 28, 14-21 Jul 91 p 9

[Article by Pavel Gutiontov, chairman of the Committee for the Protection of Freedom of Speech and Journalists Rights and secretary of the Soviet Journalists Union: "They Want Us To Play by Their Rules And on Their Grounds"—words between slantlines capitalized in original]

[Text] Those who have been trying to stifle glasnost don't care a bit about public opinion. What can we oppose to fresh psychological attacks?

It is impossible to systematize the wealth of experience in combatting publications which have hardly got established. I am afraid that at best we can count so far only on picking up a few priceless grains of this experience. How can we deny ourselves the pleasure of at least recounting the story of the Chairman of the Ulyanovsk Region EC, Oleg Kazarov (until recently, second secretary of the ruling party's Regional Committee), who lodged a suit against the city newspaper Simbirskiy Kuryer, which had labelled his speech at the Russian Congress of People's Deputies "scandalous". The moral damage he suffered in this connection was modestly estimated at 5,000 rubles. And, needless to say, the people's court readily judged in his favour. The Chairman of the Regional EC, who villified his political opponents so grossly from the parliamentary rostrum that the floor was denied to him, was found to be a sweet, gentle man. Incidentally, the Journalists Union and the Glasnost Defence Fund are planning to render legal aid (if need me, material aid as well) to their colleagues at least at the stage when an appeal is lodged at Russia's Supreme Court. Our experts who have studied the court documents believe that things will not end with the regional court...

Our newly-established Committee for the Protection of Freedom of Speech and Journalists Rights and the Glastnost Defence Fund have been overwhelmed by the ninth wave of appeals and calls for help and defence.

Shall we help? Shall we defend?

We can hardly boast of being successful yet. To achieve success, there is a need that we at least be reckoned with. But no one will reckon with us until we start to reach our goal. Even the statement by the Executive Secretariat of the Journalists Union supported by the plenum of its Council (on the conflict around the newspaper IZVESTIYA) has been arrogantly ignored. It was sent to the TASS official news agency with a request that they circulate the statement. Of course, it is not up to a public organization to tell a state agency what it should do, but the attitude towards the public organization becomes obvious...

A totalitarian system is not prepared to sacrifice anything if only due to the elementary feeling of self-preservation. Conversely, a psychological attack is underway—against common sense, against our hopes and our sense of human dignity.

At long last glasnost is now growing into freedom of speech. But so far this only means the freedom to pronounce words—society still lacks the freedom to /listen/ to them. Moreover, as we have seen, it is at times more than difficult to make honest and comprehensible speeches.

Use is being made of different methods, attended by rapprochements.

Republican sovereignty, achieved by the national democratic movements through much suffering, is now turning into a screen for a faulty information policy and for suppressing dissent. No one is going to interfere in the affairs of sovereign states, of course. But if it comes to violating human rights? And the right to the freedom of information is one of the primary rights. At their own discretion republican bosses refuse to show broadcasts by the newly-born Russian TV. Tatarstan has already refused to publish ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA. The country's single information space is being disrupted at a time when, conversely, all world information frontiers are being eroded. What part must our Union play in this respect? And what will be the role of the Glasnost Defence Fund?

Today the system is trying to avenge itself for all the losses it has suffered. Brazenly, openly disregarding both decency and law.

Let me return to the situation in IZVESTIYA. It is the field used to polish front-line experience in combatting all of us—journalists and readers alike. My colleague and good friend Yuriy Makarov was right when he wrote in Moscow News that, having reached their ends in the field, *they* will inevitably mount an attack along the entire font amidst "whistling and whooping".

The point is not in the specific personalities of one or other of the bosses around whom swords are crossed. In the final analysis, it is the right of the founder to have the newspaper he wants to have. If only the question was no more than a person whose name has now become derogatory in Soviet journalism being made Editor-in-Chief of the weekly NEDELYA. If the worst comes to the worst, it is, thank God, now possible to slam the door with aplomb—it is not accidental that Stanislav Sergeyev, the weekly's managing editor, who immediately submitted an application on his dismissal to the new Chief Editor, received 14 flattering offers on the very next day. What is important is that neither Sevruk of NEDELYA nor Yefimov of IZVESTIYA are necessary for those who have put the most authoritative newspaper (IZVESTIYA) on the brink of collapse—they need to show everyone how greatly they scorn not only public opinion, but even the laws which they themselves pass. It is important for them that everyone should be made aware: all the scandals at the Supreme Soviet and all our angry outbursts are worth nothing. To remind us who controls authority they are even ready to put their own reputation at stake.

How can we oppose them? We have only the pen. And our solidarity. Our refusal to play games by their rules.

But the funniest thing is that we are doomed to win.

Podolsk Paper Publishes 'Chauvinist' Magazine

PM0608144491 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 28, 14-21 Jul 91 p 9

[Report by Gennadiy Zhavoronkov: "A Shift of 'Accent'"]

[Text] I genuinely believed that "nashi", or "ours" (the term used by the Leningrad TV reporter Aleksandr nevzorov to describe the militants, "real patriots" opposed to Baltic independence), were only found in the Baltics. I was wrong. They can also be found an hour's drive from Moscow, in Podolsk.

An independent youth newspaper called Aktsent (Accent) was launched there last year. It was devoted to the restoration of churches, ways to ensure the birth of a baby of the desired sex, the private life of film stars, classified ads, etc. This July it branched off to produce a special edition of the chauvinist magazine Molodaya Gvardiya under the catchy name of Ours. The result was a "noisy baby" with criminal inclinations.

The very first page of this 25-page issue has this chilling but unclear statement: "Remember: river never reverse their course. The blood spilled by our fathers in the civil war will return to their children in streams of blood."

Next comes a scare story from deputy editor of Molodaya Gvardiya Vyacheslav Gorbachev. He gives a detailed picture of the doomsday when the men trying to restore capitalism—Popov, Sobchak, Afanasyev, Yeltsin, Korotich, Yakovlev, Kaugin—will get their just deserts. On the next page Ivan Brish charges the democrats (Avkadiy Murashov in particular) with, among other things, applauding "the learned elders of Zion".

The headlines in Ours sound like slogans and court sentences: "How they crucified Christ at Christmas", "In the face of aggression" (defending Iraq in the face of multinational Zionist forces), "Who's betraying Russia", etc.

Page six carries a contribution from former disgraced Moscow Communists Party boss Viktor Grishin about Boris Yeltsin's book The Octopus, amongst other things. Brezhnev's crony gives his views of Soviet history, straight form his communist shoulder. He also slams Yegor Ligachev and calls Boris Yelstin his protege. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev gets his share of criticism, too. The newspaper promises more of the same in its next issues.

Having read this trial issue of Ours the print workers called it the ravings of a lunatic and stopped the presses.

Printing shop manager Grigoriy Saamov agreed and printing was stopped. Then came a call from the First Secretary of the City Party Committee, Vladimir Krupin, who shouted at the manager in a way reminiscent of the Brezhnev era. The manager told the defender of Ours he was going to report the incident in the democratic press. The secretary called it the "yellow press" and that ended the conversation.

I asked Vladimir Krupin if the position of Ours was also that of the Podolsk party organization. He disassociated himself from Ours, saying he had only read the paper the day before and was greatly shocked. He added that he defended Ours simply because he was worried by such a ban in our new, permissive climate. Why did Ours surface in Podolsk? Because the man who supervised the issue used to be a Komsomol official in that city.

I couldn't arrange a meeting with the man. His phone was never answered, nor were the telephones of the co-op Takot, the newspaper's founders. I had the impression that those who had [word indistinct] and in publication had all gone into hiding.

Ours stands no chance in Podolsk, where its only issue appeared. Ours will most probaby move to another location not far removed from the HQ of Molodaya Gvardiya...

Distributors Cut Sales of MOSCOW NEWS

PM0608144291 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 28, 14-21 Jul 91 p 9

[Report by Lyudmila Leontyeva: "Inaccurate Information for the KGB. Press distributors in Rostov-na-Donu And Krasnodar Limit Sales of MN"]

[Text] I visited the Soyuzpechat (the sole distributor of newspapers and magazines in the USSR) in Rostov-na-Donu, shortly before it was visited by a KGB officer who wanted to see how newspapers and magazines rate with the city residents. According to Soyuzpechat it has completely stopped distribution of some publications for lack of demand and severely limited the distribution of others. MN is in their count. Early in the year, 10,000 copies of MN were put on sale around the city. Now the local Soyuzpechat has cut the number in half.

I went around more than a dozen newsstand in downtown Rostov-na-Donu to hear literally every newsvendor say that MN sells to the last copy.

Only on one occasion were nearly 10 per cent of MN copies not sold. What is the logic behind the cut? I put it to head deputy of the local distributors in charge of retail sales. He hadn't heard the figures and said straightaway there was no logic to it. It was just his personnel trying to save themselves some headache—the agency has to discard nearly 14 tons of newspapers and magazines.

Distributors in Krasnodar (the home ground of the now head of the Russian Communist Party Ivan Polozkov) have limited MN sales by 37 per cent—a cut of 2,600 copies out of 7,000. This happens even though only one per cent of MN does not sell. An open defiance from the local bosses, who on more than one occasion showed their displeasure with the "anti-Polozkov" weekly?

Asked why his organization is killing the goose that lays golden eggs, the Krasnodar territorial Soyuzpechat chief Vyacheslav Subskiy could not give any reasonable economic explanation. He only said it wasn't politics. Then the agency agreed with great irritation to put back on sale one thousand of the 2,600 copies taken off sale. The Krasnodar bosses grudgingly maintain their record: even 1,600 copies of MN withheld from sale mean that the same number of people in Krasnodar will be protected against the pernicious social and political influence.

I wonder what other parameters KGB sociologists use to determine the population's political preferences?

Air Traffic Controllers Plan To Resume Strike

LD0708030391 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 6 Aug 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The air traffic controllers' strike postponed in April will resume in only four days. While the USSR Civil Aviation Ministry has not fulfilled the majority of its promises since then, it has started persecuting strike organizers in some airports. All this has resulted in the federation of air traffic controllers' trade unions decreeing the strike to resume on 10 August:

[Begin recording] [S. Yevsyukov, vice president of the federation of air traffic controllers' trade unions] First, air traffic controllers demand to have repressive decrees against controllers in some areas abolished. Second, they demand enforcement of Cabinet of Ministers' Decree 257.

[Correspondent Sergey Milyanchikov] Are they being implemented now?

[Yevsyukov] For all intents and purposes, no. [end recording]

If the strike takes place, then to the thousands and thousands of people without tickets will be added tens of thousands more people who have tickets but who will be unable to fly on 10 August. Embarking upon this extreme measure, the air traffic controllers are primarily not thinking of themselves but of the safety of passengers so that a repeat of the Omsk tragedy, when 170 people died because of an air traffic controller who fell asleep, can be avoided. The April strike was halted 30 minutes before it was due to commence. The Civil Aviation Ministry has four days to implement everything which it promised the strikers.

Flight Crews Union Backs Controllers

OW0708033291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Council of the trade union of the Soviet Civil-Aviation Flight Crews (PALGA) has backed the decision of air-traffic controllers to go on strike on August lO and, in its turn, is to announce strike readiness for the period from August lO to September 2.

A leader of the Council told IF [INTERFAX] that in the period announced any Civil Aviation branch can announce a strike on its own in protest against the actions of its administration and against non-implementation of its demands.

This leader also said that flight crews were determined to put an end to lawlessness—to violations of working and recreation norms—and, during the period of strike readiness, to work according to the current labour laws. Elucidating this point, he said that if the flight personnel started working according to the labour laws, the Civil Aviation will come to a halt: at the moment all the rules, schedules and norms are violated.

The trade union leader said that at the sitting of the PALGA Council which was held in Monday, "we discussed a package of demands." First, we insist on concluding PALGA's general agreement with the Cabinet of Ministers and with the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

He said that the general agreement must contain "minimal demands which must be fulfilled in all of the Soviet Civil Aviation branches. The demands have to do with salaries, working conditions, catering, housing and transportation."

PALGA also insists, besides the general agreement, on collective agreements between the primary trade union organizations and the administration of enterprises, and on individual agreements for flight crew members that would take the nature of their work into account.

"If our demands are not accepted before September 2," the trade union leader said," we shall announce a national strike. The Presidium of the PALGA Council has the powers of a strike committee.

During the Tuesday sitting, the Council will specify and edit a list of the trade union's demands to the government, the trade union leader said.

The sitting is attended by delegates from all regions with the exception of Georgia and Armenia, whose representatives could not come over because of the complicated political situation in their republics.

KGB Colonel on International Terrorism

PM0608155491 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 29, 21-28 Jun 91 p 15

[Report on interview with Colnel Vladimir Baskakov, head of the KGB anitterrorism arm, by Aleksandr Makhov; date and place not given: "A Remission of Past Sins? The KGB And International Terrorism"]

[Text] 60 per cent of all terrorist acts committed in the world today are against Americans and only three per cent against Soviets.

Do you fear there'll be a similarity soon?

I do, said Col. Vladimir Baskakov, head of the KGB's anti- terrorism arm.

[Makhov] I wanted to talk with the KGB colonel after I read a brief report in the French weekly l'Express. A month ago, Paris was the venue of an unusual meeting where Western experts and KGB generals compared notes on fighting international terrorism. Terrorism and the KGB have always been hot news in European, U.S. and, of late, in Soviet media. The Paris meeting indicates that the West has weighty reasons to believe that the Soviet state and its secret services do not encourage international terrorism. A remission of sins of the past?

[Baskakov] This was not the first such meeting. Two retired KGB generals attended. But KGB anti-terrorist contacts are not limited to its retired staff. The Soviet Foreign Ministry has been arranging meetings between KGB experts and their American counterparts since last April. However, topics discussed there are classified.

[Makhov] Why did Soviet secret services suddenly decide to coordinate actions with their Western counterparts when terrorism has been around for so long?

[Baskakov] Part of the answer is obvious: new situation inside the Soviet Union changed Soviet foreign policy, greater openness of Soviet society - all these enabled contacts in this field. Besides, terrorists now begin to treat Soviet citizens on par with Americans and the British. Many left-wing radical organizations think that Soviet policy has abandoned national-liberation movements and the country is reverting to capitalism. The USSR's stand during the Gulf crisis, the warming of relations with Israel, and permitting Soviet Jews to leave for Israel made the greatest impact on them. Extremist organizations sent out threats to the USSR and the countries whose airlines had carried Soviet Jews to Tel Aviv. Several terrorist acts followed. In Athens, for example, there were bombings of cars in almost all East European embassies, including the Soviet Embassy. The bombings occurred at night and there were no victims - this signified a warning. Besides, we received threats to blow up Aeroflot planes, including those in Sheremetyevo international airport. We are worried about the situation because it is our duty to protect Soviet citizens, including those visiting other countries, so we contacted Western secret services. Frankly, we differ on

some points. For example, unlike us, Americans and the British think that all national-liberation movements are terrorist.

[Makhov] Let's test the theory. Salvadoran guerrillas were assassinating legally elected mayors for collaboration with the government some three years ago. The killings were motivated by lofty goals, so is this terrorism or not?

[Boskakov] I think that terrorism is any act committed to achieve political ends through assassination or threat to assassinate anyone.

[Makhov] Where do you differ with the Americans, then? Their approach is the same.

[Boskakov] Fundamentally, this is also their position. But let's take another example. The guerrilla war in the Israeli-occupied lands is also full of killings and violence. But this is a war of liberation and Americans call it terrorism.

[Makhov] When PLO guerrillas landed on an Israeli beach and shot civilians in the name of liberating Palestine - was this terrorism or not?

[Boskakov] In each specific case, you have to look at the objectives and the place of the event. The kidnapping of sheikhs by Israelis in Lebanon is terrorism. A plane-hijack with political demands is...

[Makhov] More often than not, under the banner of a national-liberation movement...

[Boskakov] ...terrorism. On the whole, we agree with Western countries on this point.

[Makhov] Just a few years ago, the Soviet Union supported, at least indirectly, terrorist organizations which called themselves national-liberation movements...

[Boskakov] The KGB has never taken this stand. Even today we are accused of supporting terrorist organizations. Believe me, we carefully examined the matter, and we had done nothing of the sort. I think this information was circulated by Western secret services.

[Makhov] Please refute another myth "circulated by Western secret services". Carlos, alias Ilich Ramirez Sanchez. [Makhov's question ends]

I interrupted my interview. MN has a file on this terrorist. Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, alias Carlos, born in Venezuela into the family of a well-to-do left-wing radical intellectual who named each of his three sons after "the leader of the world proletariat" - Vladimir, Ilich, Lenin. The fate of Vladimir and Lenin is unknown, but Ilich became notorious. His father sent him to Cuba when he was still a youth to see the achievements of socialism and to learn how to handle a Kalashnikov automatic. When he was a university student, his father arranged his transfer from a comfortable life in London to the Patrice Lumumba Peoples' Friendship University in Red Moscow. A couple of years later, in 1970, he failed out. He then settled in the Middle East and became involved with Palestinian terrorists, thus launching his new career. He soon became an adept terrorist, and was especially known for the kidnapping of OPEC ministers in Vienna (1975). Interpol had not been able to find him all this time, but he cropped up in world media again last year. Looking through their predecessors' archives, the new government of Hungary found a letter in which Ilich thanked Janos Kadar for Hungary's having sheltered him so many years. We now know from the Stasi archives in the GDR that Carlos was also protected by the GDR. This information prompted the press to conclude that the KGB stands behind Carlos.

Col. Baskakov: "Carlos has not come to the USSR since 1970.

[Makhov] Even briefly?

[Baskakov] He could have passed through. Now it has been revealed that he was waiting the bad times out in Hungary. But this is only according to the press. We have no documented evidence.

[Makhov] But there is, in fact, a letter addressed to Kadar. Two weeks ago, I met with Hungary's Minister of the Interior, Peter Boross, who confirmed that the letter does exist, it's not an invention of the press.

[Baskakov] Yes. Hungarians had contacts with Carlos in the same way East Germans has contacts with the RAF [Red Army Faction] (a terrorist organization that was active in West Germany-A.M.). But it is wrong to implicate us in what the secret services of Hungary and the GDR did.

[Makhov] The secret services of Hungary and the GDR are believed to have operated under KGB control, so much so that KGB informers operated within their structures.

[Baskakov] This isn't quite true. We did have contacts on routine matters, held joint operations which mainly had to do with Soviet security. But, we did not know what Hungarian secret services did inside Hungary. We have always been expressly against contacts with representatives of terrorist and extremist organizations and have never supported them.

[Makhov] Let's go back to Carlos. Now that our priorities have changed, he now poses a threat to Soviet citizens. Does the KGB keep tabs on him?

[Baskakov] In principle, we keep tabs on a number of organizations and individuals who are potentially dangerous with regard to our country. So far, Carlos has not done anything against the Soviet Union. We still keep tabs on him using press reports and other information. I can say that he is not dead.

[Makhov] In an interview one year ago his father said he thought Carlos was in Syria. Is this so?

[Baskakov] Hard to say. I don't remember. But while we are on the subject of terrorist organizations, I'll bring up the Islamic Party of Afghanistan, whose vigorous actions are directed against Soviet Central Asia.

We are worried also about the activity of overseas Armenian nationalist organizations. First and foremost this is the Armenian secret army for the liberation of Armenia. In the US, particularly San Francisco, where there is a considerable Armenian community, they are collecting funds to buy consignments of weapons to smuggle into the Soviet Union. We have information that some Soviet Armenians visiting Lebanon on invitation, get three to five-day military training in "secret army" camps in the al-Biqa' Valley. We are also worried about an Azerbaijanian nationalist group active in Iran, which also contributes to the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict.

[Makhov] The KGB now has undertaken the noble task of curbing international terrorism. What's to be done about our yesteryear allies which support terrorism, in particular Libya, Cuba, the PLO, the Kim Il Sung regime?

[Baskakov] The PLO is already abandoning terrorism, while a lot will depend on which policy takes precedence there. You've mentioned Kim Il Sung, but his regime doesn't influence terrorism.

[Makhov] What about the South Korean Boeing that was exploded over Thailand by Pyongyang agents? One of them is a young girl who is willing to give interviews on this subject.

[Makhov] Our views coincide with those of Americans here. At all the meetings they badger us, saying that we are unable to influence countries which, the West believes, pursue a policy of state terrorism. But as a matter of fact, Americans are now splendidly arranging contacts with those governments: We are also trying to steer towards political solutions.

[Makhov] Can you give any examples of Western secret services helping you prevent terrorist actions? Or it was the KGB that helped them?

[Baskakov] There we go into specifics of our cooperation which I would not like to discuss now.

[Makhov] But was there cooperation?

[Baskakov] We exchange information.

[Makhov] You mean there are other ways to exchange information than the symposiums?

[Baskakov] As for specific actions of urgent warnings we transmit information via the Foreign Ministry and our embassies to the appropriate services. And they do the same.

[Makhov] Which agency do you mainly cooperate with in the US, the CIA or the FBI?

[Baskakov] The FBI. The CIA is guarded about contacts with the KGB.

[Makhov] In addition to Americans, whom do you cooperate with?

[Baskakov] We have established contacts with the British, French, Germans, Italians, Spaniards.

KGB, Militia Antihijack Exercises Discussed

PM0608155891 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 29, 21-28 Jul 91 p 15

[Report by Aleksandr Fedorov: "Skyjack Rehearsal"]

[Text] Tashkent-Moscow—"Nabat" (tocsin) is the codename for an emergency in the air. The Nabat signal triggers off an alarm system involving hundreds of people-from air-hostesses to ministers. Counterintelligence and investigators set to work to identify the highjackers and establish their contacts and intentions.

There were 103 attempted and successful skyjacks in the USSR in the last 35 years. Over 130 people were arrested and given court sentences in connection with highjacks. Almost 120 people died and 200 sustained injuries at the hand of skyjackers or in air crashes caused by the latter.

Imitating the actions of highjackers, KGB Sergeant Boris Pokosinovskiy and two of his colleagues staged a very realistic show. Brandishing their weapons, they burst into a TU-154 and shouted: "Stay in your seats! This is a highjack!" One skyjacker "shot" a passenger who jumped up from his seat and another standing at the doorway fired a series of shots down the ladder from his submachine-gun loaded with blank cartridges. Then he nudged the air-hostess with the butt of his gun and ordered: "Close the door and get the pilots to contact ground control, otherwise we kill everyone on board one by one!" It was a typical scenario: talks between the bandits, the crew and operation control on the ground, release of the passengers and overpowering of the criminals. It took the Uzbekistan KGB antiterrorist squad a few seconds to carry out the last stage.

One attacker was "killed" and two others were taken alive. The airliner taxied towards the air terminal. The viewers representing the above-mentioned ministries and departments were in for another show: a performance by a central asian KGB antiterrorist group. I was allowed to sit inside the plane and see the actual work of those I only knew about from hearsay.

According to foreign sources, the antiterrorist squad of the KGB, "Group A", was formed in 1974. Its members are specially trained KGB officers who are familiar with different weapons and know how to overpower criminals. They use traditional as well as specialized equipment, like super-strong vests invisible when worn under normal clothes and silenced guns firing shock-inducing bullets. The group have participated in dozens of hostage-release operations and, according to Western press

reports, in taking by storm Amin's palace in Afghanistan in 1979 and the Vilnius TV Centre in 1991.

They don German-made titanium helmets with triplex-glass bullet- proof fronts. Double vests give protection even from submachine-gun bullets. Titanium knee pieces are also designed to take heavy punishment. The equipment includes: a back-pack walkie-talkie, handcuffs and pistols with tailored grips. All this weighs about five stones, but the officers moved surprisingly quickly nevertheless.

"I think my boys can do anything," I was told by a 39-year-old colonel who wished to remain anonymous. "The USSR KGB has regional anti-terrorist groups all around the country."

I'm sure "the boys" will fulfil any order, but what about the passengers? Must they fear a repetition of the "Seven Simeons" tragedy, with explosions, shooting, people killed?

"There is no instruction that the pilot has to land a highjacked plane exclusively on Soviet territory and allow the antiterrorist squad to gain admittance," said KGB Colonel Revo Ishmiyarov, head of the antisky-jacking department. "The civil aviation Code of Conduct is precise: an air captain has the right to decide whether or not to fly his aircraft abroad."

But this precision was lacking in the past. In 1973 a highjacker on a TU-104 detonated a hand grenade, killing everyone on board, after realizing that he was not going to be flown from Chita to China.

No other country in the world has a comparable record of skyjacking by people who simply want to get abroad. Lately technical school students, higher-school drop-outs, and even mothers of families, have figured among the terrorists. But often highjackers are hardened criminals who can be neutralized only by specially-trained squads. Highjackers killed hostages in Udmurtia in 1981, in Tbilisi in 1983, and Ufa in 1986. Apart from these well-known cases there were dozens of other high-jacks which escape the public's memory. Skyjacking costs the USSR a pretty penny: paid in compensation for foreign airports and in terms of loss of potential profits. It also poses a great risk for the passengers involved in situations when the crew flies the aircraft on an absolutely unknown route.

Highjacks are not likely to stop. The USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation hopes for Western help, including equipment for the crew with small charge batons and guns firing plastic bullets which stun but don't inflict mortal wounds.

The Nabat exercise was over. A cleaner brushed away the spent cartridges. I picked up two for souvenirs. I wish it was always a case of blank cartridges. But I'm afraid that's wishful thinking.

Manayenko Visits Lipetsk, Ryazan Oblasts

PM0608150991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Aug 91 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Meetings With Electorate"]

[Text] On 28-31 July USSR and RSFSR People's Deputy Yu.A. Manayenkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited Lipetsk and Ryazan Oblasts. During meetings with the electorate he expressed interest in the implementation of programs for the socioeconomic development of cities, villages, and labor collectives, reported on the fulfillment of voters' instructions, and participated in resolving a number of specific problems concerning the national economy.

While visiting the Novolipetsk Metallurgical Combine Yu.A. Manayenko toured the refrigerator shop that is under construction and residential and sociocultural facilities, and he talked to workers from production facilities manufacturing silica bricks, linoleum, ceramic tiles, and disposable syringes, and from the joint Soviet-Swedish-Brazilian enterprise "Progress." The people's deputy had meetings with peasants in the middle of the harvest toil in Yeletskiy, Dolgorukovskiy, and a number of other agricultural rayons.

Gosbank Discusses Gold Supplies, Reserves

LD0608223191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2049 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Oleg Mozhayskov, a representative of the USSR Gosbank, has not excluded the possibilty that the Soviet Union will soon hand official information over to Western countries about its gold supplies. Speaking at a news conference in Moscow today, he said that in the first place data will probably be declassified about the quantity of gold extracted and sold by the USSR. In his words, the private nature of information about gold reserves is to a great extent attributed to historical tradition over many years.

At the same time Oleg Mozhayskov stressed that data on reserves of gold in the Soviet Union will most probably remain private. This is a purely commercial secret, the divulgence of which can destablize the world market, he stated.

Investigation Continues Into Train Blast

OW0708033191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Chief of the Public Relations Centre of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, Andrey Chernenko, spoke at a press conference in Moscow about the investigation of the explosion on a Moscow-Baku train in which 15 people died and 20 were wounded. He said that 14 passengers had been identified. The investigators are

working on three versions: a terrorist act on an ethnic basis, revenge taken on one of the passengers and careless handling of explosives.

Poll Shows Public Attitudes Toward KGB, Army

PM0708083991 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 p 1

[RIA report: "Believe, Comrade!"]

[Text] The All-Union Center for the Study of Public Opinion has carried out a poll to find out how far Russian citizens trust the KGB and the Army.

The KGB is trusted by 38 percent of those polled, and the Army by 59 percent. The two bodies were equally trusted and distrusted by 17 and 18 percent respectively. The figures for those who do not trust them are 27 and 16 percent. The other people polled were "don't knows."

Poll Surveys Attitudes to Orthodox Church, Bible

OW0708100191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1229 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Text] A number of questions addressed by the National Public Opinion Studies Centre to 3106 respondents resembling Russia's population pattern last May concerned religion. The Date news agency reports:

63% said they have respect for and confidence in the Russian Orthodox Church.

7% percent said the Russian Orthodox Church must not be trusted.

30% made no comment.

About the bible half of the questioned said it was one of the oldest books containing parables, legends, historical facts and commandments written by man.

16% said the Bible was a message from God but written down by man and that far from everything written in it should be taken literally.

14% have no interest in such questions

One in every ten made no comment.

Error range was 3%

Paper Examines Communist Initiative Movement

PM0608141791 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Jul 91 p 2

[Commentary by Sergey Nagayev: "As Old As a Myth"]

[Text] The Russian presidential decree aiming to separate the party from the state had not even been published before local CPSU committees began sounding the alarm in their pocket publications: There you are, you see! A dictatorship is on the way and the people (!) are being alienated from power and government....

There is nothing new in all this, of course. Something else is surprising, however. Communist Party functionaries have apparently lost their grip on reality to such an extent that they do not understand: A united CPSU in fact no longer exists, but there are several internal party movements very active within its framework.

One of those internal party movements is the Communist Initiative Movement, whose congress (or, to be more precise, the latest stage in its congress) was held in Moscow recently. It had a curious feature. At a session of another group, Communists for Democracy, which discussed preparations for its founding party conference, anyone was free to attend (this too was held in Moscow recently). Matters are not so simple with Communist Initiative, however. In order to get into its congress you had to show a soldier's razor-sharp wit, as the people say, because the entrance was guarded by two cordons of gallant young men wearing red (what else would you expect?!) armbands. They only admitted "their own" people with special invitations....

So what was the conspiratorial Communist Initiative whispering about? First of all, it is indignant that it is not allowed to express its opinions in the party press and that its clever ideas are being supressed and kept from the broad masses.... We will try to bridge this unfortunate gap.

So, Communist Initiative is strongly critical of M. Gorbachev and other top CPSU leaders, contemptuously referring to them as the "darlings of social democracy." It believes that the ruling Communist Party leadership has made a deal with the bourgeoisie and, completely forgetting about the notorious "socialist choice," has agreed to introduce a market economy—has "sold out," in short. Well, we all know that the Communist authorities simply have no choice other than to gradually relinquish spheres of influence under pressure from forces for renewal and purification. If they are really committed to reform, as Communist Initiative claims, why this labored progress by democratic transformations throughout the country?

Representatives of the Communist Initiative Movement insist on the need for a complete and final break with the present CPSU. It states the issue in very broad terms: "Either the party purges itself immediately or our great country leaves the arena of history," according to one of its appeals.

In the event of a split, committed Communists (like Communists of the democratic persuasion, incidentally) have very great hopes of receiving their share from the party coffers—according to all the rules of the capitalist economy they so hate.

However, let us leave aside contemptible material matters and turn our attention to lofty ideas. What kind of future do these zealous party people want for the nation? And how do they intend to achieve their objectives? You see, the idea of "overcoming the hired nature of labor" and the need to "seal off all channels for parasitical,

unearned, exploitative gain" is developed in detail in their programs. Clearly—and this too is important—they are also concerned with the "fair distribution of the results of labor." This is the bait with which they wish to entice ordinary people. They do not go into the details of "fair distribution," however. Perhaps we should try?

In fact, in normal economic conditions the price of labor and its results is set by the market, i.e. supply and demand. But who, what kind of supercomputer will assess the labor contribution of each individual working person in a socialist, nonmarket economy? Although.... What need have orthodox Communists of computers when there are trusty cadres in the State Committee on Prices, State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, and State Planning Committee who will willingly resume their job of calculating how much to give to whom.

Their proposed methods of bringing their vision of a bright future closer are also interesting. It seems that politicians have absolutely no need to agitate on behalf of their programs or try to get seats in parliaments and local soviets. Why? To put it a little more simply: If soviets do not heed Communist Initiative's instructions, it will just have to give them up as a bad job and organize... new soviets! Another proposed alternative (totally serious) is to form bicameral bodies—with a "working people's chamber and a residents' chamber." What about the "bourgeois" soviets, i.e. the present, legally elected soviets? Communist Initiative is keeping quiet on this point but, judging by its loyalty to Bolshevik traditions, the soviets are obviously going to be the concern of iron seamen [matrosy zheleznyaki].

Membership of Islamic Party Reaches 30,000

LD0708093291 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 7 AUG 91

[Text] Membership in the Islamic Revival Party, which was formed in the Soviet Union in the spring of last year, has reached 30,000. The party's leaders say they are mainly farmers and other rural residents, but there is also a growing number of intellectuals.

The goal of the party is to return to Islam in the Soviet Union its real meaning and its role in life.

The party intends to officially open national branches in those republics of the country where Islam has always been traditionally strong.

RSFSR, USSR Issue Fuel, Food Order

OW0108052691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The USSR Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov and the Chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers Ivan Silayev have issued a joint order to deal with the emergency situation with food and fuel in the Far East as INTERFAX is informed by the press service of the USSR Cabinet.

Beginning with Aug. 1 all the foreign exchange earnings are to be retained by the region's enterprises—60 percent to be credited to their own foreign exchange accounts and 40 percent—to the funds of the Councils of the Primorskiy, Khabarovsk, Amur, Kamchtka, Magadan, and Sakhalin regions.

Licensing exports will be handed over to the local regional authorities.

At the discretion of the local councils and enterprises currency can be used for importing food, consumer goods, equipment, and medicines—all duty-free.

Exports from the area can include oil, gas, building materials, timber, and engineering products.

Social Sciences Academy in 'Scandal'

PM0608145691 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 29, 21-28 Jul 91 p 7

[Report by Yegor Yakovlev: "The Way To Make Money From Charity. The CPSU Central Committee's Academy of Social Sciences Is Out To Make Money"]

[Text] In Madrid there is a scandal involving the widely-advertised project to arrange summer courses of Complutense University in Moscow. The ABC newspaper reports: "The CPSU Central Committee's Academy of Social Sciences has failed to advertise or otherwise inform Soviet students and professionals who might be interested in the courses. If students are not bussed in some time soon, the first attempt to hold courses of Complutense University will end in complete failure."

It looks as if there will be a scandal in Moscow as well. The organizers of the summer courses have distributed a note of protest: The Soviet side has not only failed to provide an audience for the courses but also demands money from those few who do attend the free lectures. Prof. Justo Villafane (Director of the Institute of Soviet Culture and Science at Complutense University) is disheartened: "I don't know how our institute can go on."

It looked good at the start. The University opened the Institute of Soviet Culture and Science to coincide with the Soviet President's official visit to Spain last year. The inauguration ceremony was attended by University Rector Gustavo Villapalos and Raisa Gorbacheva. A plaque declaring Raisa Gorbecheva honorary President of the Institute was unveiled. Official visits—of the USSR Minister of Culture Nikolay Gubenko and Deputy President of the Committee for Public Education Gennadiy Kutsev—left no doubt that the Soviet side would support the Spaniards' initiative.

It was to be an imposing project to dispatch nearly a hundred Spanish lecturers and observers from among prominent politicians, scholars, and business people to

Moscow. Though Complutense University is not particularly poverty-stricken (unlike Moscow University), the expenditure involved proved too much for it. The entire programme will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. However, the final cost will be met by the Banesto Bank of Spain, the sponsor of the project.

The President of the Banesto Bank Mario Conde arrived in Moscow July 8 and didn't seem worried about the expenditure. Everything was tip-top. Raisa Gorbacheva was present. Head of the Spanish government Felipe Gonzalez (in Moscow on an official visit) made a speech in a hall filled to capacity.

But a quarter of an hour later, when the black limos had disappeared and the courses actually started, the rooms were almost empty, with 5-10 people in each. This was the audience who heard speeches from the honorary guests, including First Deputy Secretary General of the Socialist Party Alfonso Guerra, Spanish Minister of Culture Jordi Sole Tura and Nobel Prize winner Camilo Jose Cela. The situation was repeated each day during the ensuing week. It turned out that the most diligent students attending lectures were those who had paid admission fees: 1,000 Rubles [R] from Muscovites,R3,000 from other Soviets.

What happened? It was simply the result of Soviet reality, which can only be ignored by high-placed officials or those set for emigration.

The USSR Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Culture and the Committee for Public Education immediately understood that they couldn't properly arrange the courses due to lack of funds. Then the CPSU Central Committee's Academy of Social Sciences (a rich and until recently commercially active organization) stepped in. Dmitriy Kvok, the Academy's Pro-Rector, told me that the Academy had settled its financial problems and even set up a computer system. Now the Academy is seeking 6m deutsche-marks to buy a printing plant from West Germany. They have collected two million already. Little wonder: the academy has its own hotel accommodation for 1,300 people and lecture rooms with an overall floorspace of 200,000 sq. metres. Each Spaniard staying at the Academy hotel pays $250 per day, comprising charges for every service imaginable, including meals, accommodation, use of lecture rooms, cultural programmes and simultaneous translation. Appetite comes with eating. In line with this maxim, Yuriy Pishchik and Sergey Deryugin (research associates from the Institute of Religion of the Academy), who volunteered as coordinators, suggested that some students be charged for their enrolment on the courses. For that purpose they recruited the Don Quixote Co. Ltd., in which they are shareholders. But the interests of the Academy prevailed over personal interests: the overall cost estimate for the Don Quixote Co. included the costs already covered by the Spanish guests. As a result, three or four days of study cost each guest a pretty penny.

The summer courses were organized by over a dozen people representing important organizations, to say nothing of two shareholders from Don Quixote. Had the courses been open to all, the rooms would have been packed. But it did not even occur to the officials that if the Spaniards had agreed to pay for everything, then perhaps the Soviet side could pay for at least something in return. We tend to accuse nascent Soviet business of excessively mercenary artitudes, yet the country's traditional structures show even more unchristian attitudes.

As I left the building housing the Academy of Social Sciences on Vernadskiy Avenue I realized how vast this piece of "untouchable" CPSU property really is.

Later I spoke with Raisa Gorbacheva, Honorary President of the Institute of Soviet Science and Culture. She told me that not only do the Spaniards feel saddened by this failure—it is also giving rise to uneasy feelings among officials in Moscow. Courses will last for another week, she said, and everything will be done to improve the situation. A centre for coordinating contact with our Spanish colleagues is being set up in Moscow. This is only the beginning: the initiative must be followed up.

Sadly, we continue to spoil whatever we attempt to do. On Monday I was told that attendance at the courses was better than before.

More on New Charges for Travel Documents

PM0608113191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 91 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report on USSR Cabinet of Ministers Resolution " On the Procedure for Levying and Scales of State Duty for Drawing up Documents for Entry Into and Exit From the USSR" carried under the general heading: "An the USSR Cabinet of Ministers"]

[Text] The USSR Cabinet of Ministers has resolved:

1. In connection with the adoption by the USSR Supreme Soviet of the USSR Law "On the Procedure for Exit From the USSR and Entry Into the USSR for USSR Citizens," to introduce the following amendments and addenda to the USSR Council of Ministers Resolution No. 648 dated 29 June 1979 "On State Duty Rates" (SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSSR, 1979 No. 20, page 122):

Subparagraphs "a" to "k" of Paragraph 5 are to be worded as follows:

a) For the issue to USSR citizens of passports for foreign travel granting the right to go abroad or for the renewal of these passports—1,000 rubles [R].

b) For the issue of an insert for a USSR citizen's passport granting the right to go abroad or for the renewal of this insert—R200.

c) For the issue of a certificate to stateless persons granting them the right to go abroad or for the renewal of the certificate—R200.

d) For the issue or renewal of a visa for exit from the USSR for a foreign passport or a document in lieu of a foreign passport and for the issue of an exit visa to stateless persons—R50.

e) For the issue of a visa for a foreign passport or document in lieu of a foreign passport granting the right of exit from the USSR and at the same time entry into the USSR or a renewal of this visa—R100.

f) For making any amendments (apart from renewal) to previously issued documents granting the right of exit from the USSR and entry into the USSR—R50.

g) For the issue of documents to USSR citizens, foreign citizens, and stateless persons concerning invitations to the USSR—R50.

h) For the issue or renewal of a residence permit to foreign citizens and stateless persons, the registration or renewal of the registration of foreign passports or documents in lieu—R50.

i) For the issue to foreign citizens and stateless persons of residence permits in exchange for lost permits—R50.

j) For applications for USSR citizenship or surrender of USSR citizenship—R500.

k) For the issue of inserts for USSR citizens's passports to replace lost foreign passports or documents in lieu of such passports granting entitlement to foreign travel or for the issue of documents concerning invitations to the ussr—on the scale specified in subparagraphs "a," "e," and "g" of this paragraph;

to add the following notes to Paragraph 5:

"Notes: 1. In the event of applications from citizens for the urgent drawing up of documents granting the right of exit from the USSR and entry into the USSR, or invitations to the USSR, or renewals of these documents, the rates of the state duties are increased by 50 percent.

2. Rates of state duties are decreased by 50 percent in the following cases:

a) the issue of passports for foreign travel or documents in liew of such passports, and also the issue of inserts to USSR citizens' passports granting the right to go abroad or a renewal of these documents for persons who participated in the Civil War and the Great Patriotic War, and in other military operations in defense of the USSR including servicemen performing service in military units, staffs, and institutions that are part of the active army, and former partisans;

b) the issue of passports for foreign travel to children under the age of 16 years.

3. In cases of consular operations carried out abroad and on USSR territory, consular taxes are levied in accordance with the tariff for USSR consular taxes established by the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs by agreement with the USSR Ministry of Finances on the basis of existing legislation."

The resolution was implemented 1 July 1991.

TASS Reviews Soviet Central Press for 6 Aug

LD0608082191 Moscow TASS in English 0614 GMT 6 Aug 91

["Soviet Press Review"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—In the run-up to the plenary meeting of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee opening today, chairman of the central Control Commission of the Party's Central Committee N. Stolyarov expresses his point of view on the situation in the republic's Communist Party.

In the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA newspaper, Stolyarov writes that the party is losing its positions at elections "precisely because it does not want to become democratic, to become a force assisting perestroyka". The future and the salvation of the Communist Party are inconceivable without reviving the democratic tradition, Stolyarov stressed. The people have reaffirmed their choice by granting the right to be president of Russia to Boris Yeltsin. "The party, too, whether it wants it or not, has to make a choice: either it sides with the people or it is against them," he writes.

The same newspaper printed a selection of reports from various parts of the country about the reaction to the Russian president's decree to departise state-run enterprises and organisations. For instance, in Leningrad where ten per cent of enterprise directors signed orders to disband Communist Party committees on the factory floor, Leningrad Regional Party Committee Chief Boris Idaspov said the communists should obey the order.

Vasiliy Yefremov, head of the Tyumen Regional Department of the State Security Committee (KGB), said the party committee of this KGB department would comply with the order.

The constitutional compliance committee of the independent republic of Tatarstan announced that Yeltsin's order was at odds with separate provisions of the Tatarstan constitution.

The newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIA published the USSR Law on Amendments and supplements to the USSR Law on Taxes levied on enterpises, associations and organisations. The document envisages substantial privileges in imposing taxes on several categories of citizens and organisations.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA features an interview with Mikhail Moiseyev, chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces. The interview focuses on the

Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms. The Soviet military leader dismissed arguments that the treaty damages the Soviet side's security. He stresses that "the levels recorded in the treaty, both for nuclear weapons carriers and warheads, reliably ensure strategic stability", and the document itself represents on the whole "the balance of Soviet and U.S. interests achieved on the basis of compromise solutions".

The RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA newspaper offers its own version of the causes of the bandit attack on the Madininkai customs post on the Belorussian-Lithuanian border on the night of July 30. The raid left six border guards killed and two seriously injured. According to this version, "someone has staged the political provocation and timed it to coincide with Bush's visit". The masterminds of this provocation wanted to draw the top-ranking guest's attention to the situation in the Baltic republics. The article has a transparent hint at the present leadership of Lithuania.

A report in the TRUD newspaper says that the guard who was seriously injured regained consciousness and can become an important witness in this case. A report from Vilnius says that Lithuania's leaders stated their intention to get down to active defence. This means that "tension in the republic has reached an extremely dangerous point".

The same newspaper writes about the Russian government's programme to transfer to market relations, which is named the Silayev project. Yevgeniy Saburov, Russian deputy education minister, who is one of the architects of this project, writes that the Russian government proclaims the right of each individual to enterprise and to engage in business. Part of state property is planned to be sold as soon as this year.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA informs readers about the founding conference of an international organisation of economic development held in Moscow recently. Yuriy Znamenskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry Presidium, who is one of the founders of the new organisation, said in an interview with RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA that the organisation's principal goal was to "guarantee that a foreign businessman investing his capital on the territory of the Soviet Union will receive and repatriate the planned profits under any circumstances."

The press features debates on the founding conference of the Democratic Party of Russian Communists held in Moscow late last week. The party was founded on the basis of the Communists for Democracy Movement and is headed by Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA believes that there is great confusion in the statements and deeds of the new party which scathingly "criticises the Russian Communist Party and swings to negating Marxism-Leninism altogether".

An article on this subject in SELSKAYA ZHIZN, which is titled "Political Games in the Cinema House" stresses that at point "is the split in the Communist Party".

Launching the new rubrick "On Domestic Fronts", KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes that "there have been no drastic changes in the situation on the fronts of ethnic conflicts last week. Fighting persisted on the Armenian-Azerbaijan border."

"The same newspaper published excerpts from a new book by Viktor Korchnoy, the four-time chess champion of the USSR and challenger for the world chess title, who refused to return home from Holland in the summer of 1976. The excerpts tell about this watershed period in the grandmaster's life.

An international commentary in PRAVDA is devoted to the anniversary of the Hiroshima tragedy, which is marked today. Vsevolod Ovchinnikov, the author of the commentary, emphasises the need to move towards a nuclear-free and non-violent world. "The potential of trust accumulated after the end of the Cold War allows Moscow and Washington to begin building by joint efforts a system of lasting security in conditions of openness, stability and predictability.

Contents of IZVESTIYA TSK KPSS Summarized

PM0608155091 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Latest Issue of IZVESTIYA TSK KPSS"]

[Text] The eighth issue of the journal IZVESTIYA TSK KPSS has come off the press and is being distributed to subscribers.

The section "What the Party Is Working On" opens with an article by P.K. Luchinskiy, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, "The Party and Its Press." Here too is a chronicle of the Central Committee's work in June, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo resolution "On the Work of Communists in the Soviets of People's Deputies," materials from a session of the Central Committee Standing Socioeconomic Commission which examined the party's position on questions of privatization and destatization, and a brief report from a session of the Central Committee Commission on Science, Education, and Culture, at which draft laws on culture were discussed.

The issue publishes resolutions of the CPSU Central Committee Secretariat adopted in May-July. They include those on the work of the Kharkov University party organization, on the results of zonal conferences of primary party organization secretaries, on improving information links within the CPSU, and others.

Under other rubrics there are the opinions of CPSU Central Committee members on ways of renewing the Union; materials from the council of secretaries of

primary party organizations under the CPSU Central Committee; notes from Central Committee departments and apparatus workers; materials on the work experience of party committees in Zaporozhye and Pavlodar Oblasts; and reports on the structure and functions of the Central Committee Organizational Department, on sociopolitical organizations, parties, and movements in Moldova, on the experience of privatization of enterprises and legislative regulation of the activity of political parties in foreign countries, and on cadre changes.

The section "Dialogue With Readers" contains answers by party committee secretaries to the journal's questions, and, in response to readers' requests, talks about the progress and problems of the rebirth of the Cossack movement, the last days of White Guard domination in the Maritime region (1922), and the "personal case" of N.S. Alliluyeva, and introduces the letters of A.M. Gorkiy (1930-1935).

The archive section of the issue includes a chronicle of Central Committee activity in November-December 1920, a documentary account of V.I. Lenin's last trip to Moscow 18-19 October 1923, the final part of the publication of documents on the debate over L.D. Trotskiy's article "Lessons of October" (1924-1925), documents from the history of the Great Patriotic War relating to the case of Marshal G.I. Kulik (1942), and a review of IZVESTIYA TSK RKP (B) [NEWS OF THE RUSSIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (BOLSHEVIKS) CENTRAL COMMITTEE] for March 1921.

Economic

Economist Views Economic Reform, Privatization

LD0608164491 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Mikhail Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—The Soviet Government may reduce the number of enterprises which are not subject to privatisation by threefold next week, Pavel Bunich, president of the Union of Soviet Leaseholders and Entrepreneurs, told a news conference at the Soviet Foreign Ministry press centre on Tuesday, referring to his conversations with Soviet Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov.

He said about 17 percent out of 800 billion rubles worth of state property will remain in the state sector after privatisation. However, the remaining enterprises will also be open for free business activities since only major shareholdings will be owned by the state.

Bunich said a recently set up state council for economic reform unites chairmen of major unions of entrepreneurs and an "important" and "financially reliable" international fund aimed to support Soviet businessmen. Among the fund's founders are the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, the Russian Foreign Ministry and nine foreign firms.

Bunich said that an international forum on economic cooperation between East European countries is planned for October 22 in Leningrad. The forum will aim to restore hastily severed traditional economic ties between the Soviet Union and East European countries.

He said the leadership of the country, Russia and Kazakhstan have been informed about the initiative. U.S. President George Bush during his recent visit to Moscow said he would send his greetings and a group of U.S. experts to the forum. The forum will be presided over by Bunich and former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Shcherbakov Details Defense Industry Conversion

LD0608173391 Moscow TASS in English 1436 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Yuriy Sizov]

[Text] Moscow August 6 (TASS)—"Without implementing the state programme for the defence industry conversion, economic restructuring in the USSR is unreal," First Deputy Prime Minister of the USSR Vladimir Shcherbakov told TASS.

He said that budget allocations for purchasing arms and military equipment were slashed by 9.5 billion rubles in 1991 as against 1988 to total 23.9 billion rubles (in prices of 1990).

The output of aircraft decreased 1.8 times in 1991 as against 1988; tanks—2.1 times; strategic missiles—2.4 times; ammunition—2.8 times; self-propelled and towed artillery—2.9 times; infantry combat vehicles, amphibious vehicles, and personnel armoured carriers—4.2 times.

According to Shcherbakov, arms production conversion covers upwards of 600 industrial plants in the defence sector, including 460 in the Russian Federation, 94 in the Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic], 19 in the Belorussian SSR, and 11 in the Kazakh SSR.

The USSR Ministry of Aircraft Building has the largest number of enterprises retooled for civilian work—118; the USSR Ministry of the Defence Industry—115; the USSR Ministry of the Radio Equipment Production Industry—103; and the USSR Ministry of the Shipbuilding Industry—91.

The state programme for the defence industry conversion and the development of the production of civilian output in the defence sector for the period ending in 1995 comprises five priority programmes on the Union level.

One of them—a programme to develop civil aircraft in 1991-1995—features 7,990 million rubles in appropriations for research and development and envisages the supply of 22 billion rubles worth of civil aircraft and helicopters over this period.

Under the programme, it is planned to complete the trials and begin operating highly efficient IL-96-300, TU-204 and IL-114 aircraft of the new generation. The programme also envisages building and supplying, beginning from 1993 the new AN-38 aircraft to fly on domestic air lines.

A programme to develop the shipbuilding industry for civilian needs stipulates an increase by 1.75 times in the production of ships in 1995 as against 1991. The export of commercial ships is planned to be boosted by over two billion rubles in 1991-1995. The implementation of the programme will require 700 million rubles in capital investments.

The implementation of a space programme will need 11 billion rubles for research and development in 1991-1995, 700 million rubles in capital investments and 135 million in hard currency to purchase accessories, advanced technologies and computers.

A programme to develop communications systems for the national economy and in the interests of international cooperation will call for 4.35 billion rubles in capital investments to retool enterprises and organisations in this industry in 1991-1995, 4.6 billion rubles for research and development, including some 2,000 million rubles under contracts with customers, and the supply of over 16 billion rubles worth of equipment for communications facilities.

A programme of the USSR Ministry of the Nuclear Power Engineering Industry for the production of promising materials envisages an increase in the production of precious, rare, and rare-earth metals and high-tech chemical and metallurgical industry products up to 3.5 billion rubles; of extra-pure materials—up to 5.9 billion rubles; and fibre-optical equipment—up to 700 million rubles.

The indicators for the production of civilian output envisaged by the conversion programme are presented as forecasts for utilising capacities released as a result of arms production conversion by their retooling and development, Shcherbakov explained.

The key point of the programme is an increase in the manufacture of non-food consumer goods, which grew 1.8 times over five years. It is planned to boost the production of tv sets to 15 million in 1995, including colour tv sets—12 million; videotape recorders—2.4 million; tape recorders—7.5 million; refrigerators and freezers—8.7 million.

Conversion will create conditions for a drastic increase in the production of advanced medical equipment. Its output is planned to be increased 2.5 times.

At the same time, many defence industry enterprises found themselves in a serious financial position as a result of the sharp decrease in military spending. In addition, the defence sector encountered the problem of losing its production and scientific potential.

A survey conducted by the USSR State Committee for Statistics shows that 228,000 (76 percent) out of 300,000 people who lost their jobs as a result of conversion in 1990 regained jobs at the same enterprises producing civilian output. Conversion is expected to force about 380,000 people out of work in 1991. Some 70,000 people will swell the ranks of unemployed.

As research and development for military purposes shrank in 1990-1991, the country has witnessed an outflow of scientific personnel from the defence sector. Some 40,000 employees at defence sector scientific research institutes and design bureaus quit their jobs in 1990. More than 90,000 people are expected to leave their jobs this year. Upwards of 300 defence industry scientific research institutes and design bureaus need financial support from the state to preserve their work remuneration funds in 1991.

Shcherbakov named the social protection of the working people as conversion is being implemented and its legal support as the number one problem being tackled by the USSR Cabinet of Ministers.

More on Pavlov Meeting With Industrialists

PM0608110991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Aug 91 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "'Playing According to the Rules'"]

[Text] On 2 August USSR Prime Minister V.S. Pavlov met with the leaders of a number of industrial enterprises.

There was a frank and concerned discussion about concluding the present complex economic year and preparing for the even more difficult year of 1992, and about strengthening ties between industry and the countryside and providing the whole country with food, fuel, and other very important resources and goods.

There was a particularly sharp discussion about the issue of the stabilization, strengthening, and development of direct economic ties, taxes, prices, and the formation of a single economic space. It was noted that the inconsistency between Union and republic laws and decisions makes the work of state enterprises much more difficult, and sometimes places them in an ambiguous position. Enterprises receive the most varied, sometimes mutually exclusive instructions and directives, and the controllability of the economy is lost.

It was stressed with concern that state enterprises, as the main manufacturers of goods in the present transitional conditions, cannot be allowed to disintegrate. On the contrary, questions were raised about increasing their role, taking into account the formation of new market relations, and creating equal conditions for them with respect to the market subjects that are coming into being—small enterprises, cooperatives, and so on.

Proposals on specifying state enterprises' working conditions, particularly during the formation of the 1992 production program, and establishing clear and precise "rules of the game" were supported at the meeting.

Resolution on Import, Export Controls

PM0608143391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Jul 91 Union Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR Cabinet of Ministers. On Additional Measures To Regulate the Import and Export of Consumer Goods by USSR Citizens and the Disposal of Goods Confiscated by USSR Customs Organs"]

[Text] In order to better regulate the import and export of consumer goods by USSR citizens, improve the conditions for allowing citizens to cross the USSR state border, and regulate the disposal of goods confiscated by USSR customs organs, the USSR Cabinet of Ministers has agreed with the USSR Customs Committee proposal to raise the top value of gifts (in current USSR retail prices) which citizens may take through USSR customs free of duty in 1991:

Gifts worth up to 2,000 rubles [R] may be imported into the USSR;

Gifts worth up to R300 may be exported from the USSR.

It has established that in 1991 certain types of socially important consumer goods (foodstuffs, medicines, light industrial goods, construction materials, and electric household appliances), vehicle spare parts and accessories, jewelry, and other everyday goods made from precious metals and stones are not liable to export from the USSR by citizens living permanently in the USSR and traveling abroad temporarily for the purpose of tourism, recreation, medical treatment, visiting relatives, and so forth, or by citizens living permanently abroad who are temporarily in the USSR for one of the above purposes or in transit through the USSR.

The USSR Customs Committee has been instructed, together with the USSR Ministry of Trade, to draw up a specific list of these goods on the basis of the changes taking place in the country's consumer market, after first consulting with the republics concerned.

It has established that foodstuffs not included in the aforementioned list may be exported by citizens in amounts appropriate to the length of their journey.

The measures stipulated in the present clause do not apply to consumer goods acquired in the USSR with foreign currency in conformity with USSR legislation.

The USSR Customs Committee has been instructed to:

Take measures to improve the customs control mechanism and the procedure for declaring goods in order to ensure strict compliance with bans and restrictions on the export of goods from the USSR;

Introduce changes, coordinated with the USSR Ministry of Finance, to the procedure for levying customs duty from citizens, with the intention of speeding up this procedure and making it more convenient for the citizens concerned.

The republic governments have been recommended to take measures together with the USSR Customs Committee to create the necessary transport and communications infrastructure of checkpoints along the USSR state border and to maintain installations in this infrastructure in an appropriate condition with regard to equipment.

The USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs has been instructed to:

Work together with the republic governments concerned to organize road patrol services operating in conjunction with USSR customs organs along roads in the USSR's western border regions in order to regulate traffic on approach roads to checkpoints on the USSR state border; collaborate with USSR customs organs and republic internal affairs organs to ensure that law and order is maintained on approach roads to checkpoints on the USSR state border.

The USSR Foreign Ministry has been instructed, together with the USSR Customs Committee and the republic governments concerned, to hold talks with competent organs in neighboring countries on organizing a 24-hour service by checkpoints on the USSR's western border on the basis of agreements concerning the joint provision of facilities at these checkpoints.

Following the results of these talks, the USSR Foreign Ministry and USSR Customs Committee are to submit proposals to the USSR Cabinet of Ministers on questions requiring a decision by the USSR Government.

The All-Union State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company has been instructed, together with the USSR Customs Committee and the republic television and radio broadcasting organs concerned, to ensure that the population is informed about customs regulations and norms and any changes to them.

The USSR Cabinet of Ministers has established that, in addition to sale at customs auctions, property transferred to state ownership on the basis of decisions taken by USSR customs organs, including property exported from the USSR in violation of bans and restrictions (primarily industrial-engineering goods and large consignments of consumer goods), may be sold via commodity-raw materials exchanges at market prices based on current supply and demand.

Money made from the sale of this property via commodity-raw materials exchanges will be paid into the USSR budget—after expenditure incurred in recording, evaluation, storage, and transportation and other overheads have been reimbursed—with the intention of its being

used in the established procedure to develop the customs service, including improvements to the customs infrastructure.

The USSR Customs Committee is authorized to transfer medicines, baby foods, and other essential goods confiscated in the established procedure by USSR customs organs to establishments in the social sphere directly and free of charge, after agreeing the transfer procedure with the USSR Ministry of Health, USSR State Committee for Public Education, and USSR Ministry of Finance.

Together with the USSR Ministry of Finance and USSR Ministry of Justice, the USSR Customs Committee is to draft and submit proposals to the USSR Cabinet of Ministers on introducing changes to existing legislation on the basis of this resolution.

Roundtable on USSR, World Economy Opens

LD0608142491 Moscow TASS in English 1306 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Sergey Ryabikin]

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—"The USSR firmly intends to build market relations and get integrated into the world economy and has already taken several legislative and other measures to modify the country's economic system," said Ivan Ivanov, a consultant of the USSR Supreme Soviet on economic issues. He addressed a round-table conference devoted to "the USSR's incorporation into the world economy" held here today.

According to Oleg Mozhayskiy, head of the monetary and financial department of the USSR State Bank, the USSR's associated status in the International Monetary Fund is "an intermediary stage to expedite its entry into international monetary organisations." Establishing a domestic turnover of the ruble, which may take place in 1993, [word indistinct] to play a substantial role in shaping a market economy in the country, Mozhayskiy believes.

He said that the present centralised distribution of currency suits neither the centre, the republics nor enterprises. It is necessary that the state should ensure the inflow of a sufficient amount of currency into the market and also the availability of the sufficient number of banks. Most of the country's two hundred banks that now have licences for currency transactions do not have the necessary experience. He also said that the USSR's credit payments "will amount to about 15 billion U.S. dollars a year in the next two years.

Vladimir Rodyushkin, chief of the Main State Tax Inspectorate, noted that the adoption of laws on taxes in the USSR created conditions for the transition to market relations. He said the tax reform was aimed at developing the USSR's foreign economic relations. He emphasised that conditions for the activity of Soviet and foreign business people were now equal.

According to Rodyushkin, the USSR signed agreements to "remove double taxation with 20 states, among them Greece, Turkey and South Korea. He said vigorous work was now conducted with representatives of the U.S. and there were proposals from another ten states to conclude such agreements.

He stressed that the relationships between the centre and the republics would not affect the interests of western entrepreneurs because the USSR's taxation policy would be uniform.

Electronic Information Service Opens in USSR

OW0108141591 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1900 GMT 29 Jul 91

[Video report by V. Polozhentsev; from the "Utro" program]

[Text] A new electronic information service has been established and has begun operation in our country. A few days ago, in Moscow's Molodezhniy Hotel, a presentation was held by its organizer Informatsionnye Komercheskiye Seti [Commercial Information Networks] Joint Stock Association. [Video shows a meeting in progress, then cuts to show workers at pc's]

[Begin recording] [Polozhentsev] A similar service has been in existence in foreign developed countries for a long time. But here we are taking only our first steps. The fact is, that without certain electronic units it would be impossible to create it. And so, Soviet specialists have developed a new scheme in principle, differing from its foreign counterparts, that allows many types of computers access to the information bank. [Video shows an electronic circuit board]

The existing information banks are even more extensive than the usual ones on the market. The system allows the conclusion of agreements on various deals without intermediaries. If a subscriber needs to buy timber, it is enough for him to type the word 'timber' into the computer, the type of timber, and the amount required. In a few seconds, addresses and telephone numbers of sellers appear on the screen. Besides this, subscribers receive a review of newspapers and journals. One can order commentaries from economists on specific issues, bank data, Soviet laws and regulations, and world exchange rates. Subscribers can sell their own goods. [Video cuts to show Polozhentsev interviewing N.V. Bobrov, director of the Leninsk Information and Advertising Agency, then cuts to show a wall chart showing the information exchange network, share certificates]

[Bobrov] A subscriber's membership costs in the vicinity of 5,000-7,000 [rubles]. This is the joining fee, and then the subscriber pays 8 rubles per kilobyte of information received. At the moment, the membership sign up list for private persons is open until 12 September 1991. The fee is 1,000 rubles, and for enterprises and organizations the fee is 10,000 and 100,000 rubles.

[Polozhentsev] Is it possible to lose money on your shares?

[Bobrov] In principle, it is always possible, and as it is said, never renounce jail. However, as our experience shows from 1989, our agency guarantees quite a high return of 20 percent on preferential shares. That we can guarantee. [end recording]

Series Production of Compact Motor Readied

PM0108134191 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 0715 GMT 26 Jul 91

[From the "Innovation" program: Report by unidentified correspondent interviewing V. Andriyenko, director of the ALDIS Small Enterprise, identified by caption]

[Text] [Andriyenko] So, this engine was designed by the "Saturn" Science-and-Production Association named for A.M. Lyulka. This is the final result. The engine has proved successful, and today already this motor is vital to our farmers, communal holdings, fishermen, in fact anywhere where a compact, powerful, and efficient engine is needed. This is a six-horsepower engine which uses one-third less fuel than the carburetors on engines currently in production in the USSR. It is built to world standards, and by developing and mass producing between 100,000-150,000 of these engines we could resolve many of the problems dogging our national economy. In order to put this engine into series production and effect more extensive verification of the engine in real working conditions, the ALDIS Science-and-Production Small Enterprise was set up and instituted. This enterprise's main task is to assemble and produce a small batch of engines, to elaborate modifications for its further development of the SN-6D engine, and to organize cooperative links with other enterprises. If we are talking in terms of producing enough engines for our immense country, then this will involve an immense amount of activity for all—all those who want to take part in this matter. As for financing this work, we are experiencing certain difficulties, but now we have a ray of hope which we link to our cooperation with the Russian Innovation Concern. I think that such cooperation will help us to find the thread by which we will remove the problems of compact equipment.

Kuzbass Coal Output Suffers Decline

LD0208081191 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1200 GMT 1 Aug 91

[Text] The coal industry of the Kuzbass continues to suffer a drop in production. As the oblast statistical directorate has reported, the extraction of fuel in the coalfield since the beginning of the year has gone down by 15.5 million tonnes compared with the same period last year. Since the coalminers' strike in the spring, 1.5 million man-days were lost, although the miners' pay fund increased by 68 percent, no noticeable improvements have been taking place in the industry.

Agriculture

Stavropol Kray Grain Harvesting Completed

PM0608144091 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Second Edition p 1

[By V. Pankratov: "Why the Gain Is Beyond Our Powers"]

[Text] Stavropol Kray—The rye fields look as if they were cast in bronze. The ripe ears bend under their own weight.

"We are taking 50 quintals of grain from each hectare," combine operator Aleksandr Veretennikov says.

I wonder why he does not sound delighted? It turns out that it is all quite simple. Last year the average yield from grain crops on the Chapayev Kolkhoz in Kochubeyevskiy Rayon was 62 quintals. This year it is much lower. Considerable damage was done to the crops by the extreme heat, followed by frequent torrential rain. All the same, that is not the main reason. The farm's chief agronomist V. Panchenko is convinced that the grain shortfall is directly connected with the chronic shortage of nitrogenous fertilizers. The shortfall was 850 tonnes.

"And so we are suffering losses," kolkhoz chairman M. Shikunov admits. "Under civil law, such situations are called loss of expected gain. It is not difficult to calculate it. Only the question is, against whom could we take proceedings? Such lawsuits are not practicable, it is extremely difficult to identify a culprit."

Mikhail Ivanovich is arguing from past experience. To be honest, his view is based on the poor legal protection of the grain farmer's interests. Now the picture is changing. The introduction of market relations demands the abandonment of old views and ideas. The skillful use of legislation also regulates economic management relations. And if the yield per hectare is insufficiently high for subjective reasons, that should lead to certain legal consequences. It is absolutely justified to present a partner who fails to deliver the goods with an account for the failed harvest.

This year's harvest in Stavropol Kray offers plenty of grounds for such conclusions. In Novoaleksandrovskiy Rayon great damage was done to the winter wheat crops by chinch bugs. The agricultural aircraft which were supposed to carry out chemical spraying of the crops were inactive because there was no fuel for the planes.

"Yes, the lack of fuel did great damage to the harvest," says N. Tyutyunnikov, chief of the kray agro-industrial committee legal section. "This has all the signs of loss of gain which the grain farmers had a right to expect. But in practice it is impossible to protect them. There is no method of calculating such losses."

In Stavropol they have finished the grain harvest. The average yield in the kray is more than 30 quintals. The

grain was well "scorched," particularly in the north-eastern zone. It was also affected by hailstorms and torrential rain, which squashed the plants to the ground. You can't argue with nature. But there is also damage due to the inadequacy of partnership ties. The kray's kolkhozes and sovkhozes failed to receive a large quantity of batteries for grain harvesting combines. The shortage of truck tires is acute. There are not enough carbides or electrodes.

According to preliminary calculations, the gross grain yield in the kray will be 5.2 million tonnes. At the field threshing floors they are processing that part of the crop that is to be delivered to the state. First and foremost the tax in kind must be met, that is 1.7 million tonnes. The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet and RSFSR Council of Ministers resolution stipulates severe sanctions for falling down on these deliveries. But that should also be the case in protecting the interests of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and all the grain producers. But things are different for them.

Last year many farms in Stavropol Kray sold a considerable quantity of food grain to the "Stavropolkhleboproduct" Association in exchange for mixed feed. But that was a mistake. The association did not meet its commitments. When, at the height of the livestock wintering, the demand for forage was particularly high, the debtor stated: "The issuing of mixed feed is postponed to the second half of 1991. By order of the Russian Government." It turned out that compensation for losses was ruled out. Can you call that fair?

Agriculture Minister Comments on Problems

LD0508194191

[Editorial Report] Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian, in its scheduled "Vremya" newscast at 1530 GMT on 5 August, carries a 7-minute report on the agricultural situation. which begins with the announcer saying that the "Vremya" program has received three reports on farming affairs today, and today too our correspondent talked to Vyacheslav Ivanovich Chernoivanov, USSR Minister of Agriculture.

There follows a video report by Ye. Bruk from the (Gorskiy) state farm in the central Donbass, which has achieved an above-average harvest for the area.

Chernoivanov is then seen in his office talking to interviewer Valeriy Golubov, who says: "By today we have already threshed 39.1 million hectares, and about 21.3 quintals per hectare are going for threshing. Up to today swaths amount to just over 83 million tonnes and just over 20 million tonnes have been procured."

The next video report is from Barnaul, where L.Salnikov says mass harvesting of grain crops is about to start. The Altay has received 85,000 tonnes less gasoline in the first six months of this year than last, which is more than a month's normal use. The Altaynefteprodukt association is trying to make direct contracts with distillation works. Its director A.V.Shipulin says that with great difficulty they have managed to get an extra 33,000 tonnes of gasoline ordered in July, but Rosnefteprodukt is not fulfilling the order and it is now clear that 13,000-14,000 tonnes of this extra gasoline will not be supplied.

Chernoivanov then comments: "I must say that while the work is underway, a whole series of questions are being tackled that have not been completely solved. They include questions to do with complete, or nearly complete, provision of storage batteries. Questions of tires have not been fully solved yet. There are several other problems, not to mention the question of fuel, which I did not mention. Of course a lot of organizational work has to be done in the localities, and the most serious attention needs to be paid to this organizational work in the localities now."

The last video comes from Perm oblast, where M.Klepov reports on attempts by a local farm to do without outsiders: They succeeded in harvesting grain, but are using townspeople to harvest vegetables.

Chernoivanov comments: "So far agriculture does not have the essential machines and equipment to carry out harvesting of vegetables and potatoes. Not everything is there for other crops, and until this question is solved of course the active help of people—townspeople, students and all of us—will be needed to do the harvesting with the means we have.

Golubev then asks: "Viktor Ivanovich, my last question: The Ministry has not been working for long, but already the press and public are sometimes claiming that the Minister is not running the industry, and first and foremost as far as the low level of (?material) supplies is concerned."

Chernoivanov replies: " Well, first of all as far as the old accepted concept of running industries goes, of course that isn't the way we run things. The main task of the ministry is to organize a certain system of support, to set out normative documents, to set out documents to stimulate the development of agricultural production. Answering a question on supply problems, he says: "We consider that under the Ministry of Agriculture there should be set up, or reorganized, either a concern, or an organization or an association for material and technical supply." He concludes: "It is absolutely essential that there should be some third organization which will keep seeing to it that the material and technical resources are balanced in accordance with the productivity of agricultural output."

Scientific

Cosmonaut Cited on Space Cooperation

LD0608092391 Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Rena Kuznetsova]

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—"The tendency towards cooperation in space research and exploration for peaceful purposes that became pronounced in recent years will develop further in major global projects," says General Gherman Titov, who was second in space after Yuriy Gagarin's trail-blazing flight.

August 6 marks the thirtieth anniversary since the launch of the Vostok-2 spaceship piloted by Titov.

"The world's first cosmonaut dreamed of making space serve man's vital interests, peace and progress on Earth," Titov told TASS. "We intend to create production complexes in space to carry out an extensive programme in the interests of different branches of the national economy".

"The international space year, scheduled by the U.N. General Assembly for 1992, opens prospects for the further development of international cooperation in space, which will enable space research to be oriented towards mankind's needs, towards the solution of global problems," the Soviet cosmonautics veteran said.

"Discussions are already underway of specific programmes for the use of space facilities to study natural resources, protect the environment and perfect space technologies".

Cosmonauts Continue Mir Experiments

LD0608162791 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1050 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By unidentified correspondent from flight control center]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Aug (TASS)—The work of Anatoliy Artsebarskiy and Sergey Krikalev aboard the Mir orbital complex continues. Experiments to further study the structure of the Earth's atmosphere are being conducted today. This work is being carried out using an electronic photometer to measure the brightness of stars as they set behind the Earth's horizon.

The crew's flight schedule for this week includes geophysical and astrophysical research and work on the science of materials in space.

The cosmonauts have carried out further video filming of northern areas of Kazakhstan to capture up-to-date information on the state of agricultural land prior to the harvest.

Today, the cosmonauts will also prepare the Krater technological furnace for another smelt.

Molniya-1 Communications Satellite Launched 1 Aug

LD0208085491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0831 GMT 2 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 2 Aug (TASS)—A regular 'Molniya-1' communications satellite was launched in the Soviet Union on Thursday [1 Aug]. It is designed to ensure the operational use of a long-distance telephone and telegraph radio-communications system, as well as the transmission of USSR Central Television program to isolated areas.

The satellite was placed into a high elliptic orbit by a 'Molniya' carrier rocket with an apogee of 40,681 kilometers in the northern hemisphere and a perigee of 653 kilometers in the southern hemisphere. The satellite's period of revolution is 12 hours, 17 minutes, and its orbital inclination, 62.9 degrees.

Geneva Forum Discusses Cooperation in Space

LD0508155191 Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 5 Aug 91

[By Sergey Sedov]

[Text] Geneva August 5 TASS—Confidence-building and openness regarding outer space should be promoted by the implementation of the rules for civilian and military satellites, and the setting up of regional "agencies of openness" which would be supplied on the basis of existing agreements on security with photographs made from satellites for analysis and use.

This proposal is contained in a working document submitted by the French delegation to the special committee for the prevention of the arms race in space at a regular session of the conference on disarmament in Geneva.

The authors of the project believe that these measures will help restrain the arms race and lessen military danger in outer space. On the one hand, they will facilitate safety of peaceful activity in space, preventing the use of space for aggressive purposes. On the other hand, they will ease the access of all interested countries to space activity, which will promote cooperation in the use of space for economic and technical purposes.

Indian Satellite To Be Launched by USSR

LD0608162191 Moscow TASS in English 1609 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—An Indian artificial earth satellite is to be launched by "Vostok" booster-rocket from Baykonur Cosmodrome on August 29, the USSR Glavkosmos (the main space administration) announced.

The launching is envisaged by a commercial agreement between the two countries. Soviet and Indian specialists now conduct preparations for the launching of "IRS-15" satellite.

Military

Regulations of Armed Forces' Komsomol Noted

91SV0021A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jul 91 First Edition p 3

["Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces"]

[Text] The Komsomol [Communist Youth League] Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is an independent sociopolitical organization which unites youth on a voluntary basis during the period of service, training, or work in the USSR Armed Forces. It is a subject of the federation of the All-Union Lenin Communist Youth League [VLKSM].

The Komsomol Organization of the Armed Forces operates on the basis of the Komsomol regulations, its own program documents, and the present regulations in keeping with the USSR Constitution and Soviet and military legislation, and contributes to the implementation of the state youth policy in the USSR Armed Forces.

The main task of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is to express and defend the rights of it members, to develop the high qualities of citizen and patriot in Komsomol members and young military men, to develop a conscientious attitude toward the performance of military duty, and to provide an example of combat training, service, and discipline.

I. Fundamentals of Intra-Union Life

1. The intra-Union life of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is based on the following principles:

a) respect for the personal worth and opinion of each member of the organization;

b) collectivity in the work of the organization, collegiality in the adoption of decisions, and personal responsibility of the members of the union for the work entrusted to them;

c) electivity of all Komsomol organs from below to above;

d) periodic reporting from Komsomol organs to their higher organizations and transfer of information about their activity by these to the higher organs;

e) complete openness in the work of all Komsomol organs and organizations and also free discussion in the stage of development of decisions;

f) respect for the rights of the majority and the minority: The interests of the majority are ensured by its right to speak and act on behalf of the entire organization and dispose of its property.

The interests of the minority are ensured by the right to defend their position by appealing to public opinion and to conduct activity that does not contradict the Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces;

g) mandatory implementation of the decisions of the higher organs by lower ones in keeping with the present Regulations;

h) the Komsomol organization establishes the delimitation of the competence of the higher and elective organs. The functions and authority of the elective organs are determined by a decision of the congress of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces and conferences and meetings of the Komsomol organizations.

2. The All-Army Council of Komsomol Organizations may institute Komsomol awards.

II. Membership in the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces

3. A member of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces may be any young person of the Soviet Union from 14 to 28 years of age who recognizes the program documents and fulfills the Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces and pays membership dues.

By a decision of the primary Komsomol organization on the basis of a statement of a Komsomol member, membership in the Komsomol may be extended.

4. Members of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces are members of the VLKSM and they have a Komsomol card of the standard all-Union model and a badge. By a decision of the All-Army Council of Komsomol Organizations (VSKO) additional symbols may be introduced.

5. When a VLKSM member transfers from other subjects of the federation to the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces he is guaranteed the rights secured by the VLKSM Regulations.

6. Admission to membership in the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

The question of admission to membership in the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces of individuals who are not members of the VLKSM is considered and resolved in the primary Komsomol organization individually on the basis of an application. The decision is considered adopted if more than half of the Komsomol members attending the meeting vote in favor of it. The procedure for business at the time of admission to membership in the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is determined by the primary Komsomol organization.

7. A member of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces has the right to:

a) appeal to the Komsomol organization and organs and the Komsomol mass media for assistance in the protection of his interests and rights;

b) nominate, elect, and be elected to Komsomol organs;

c) discuss, criticize, make suggestions, and defend his viewpoint regarding questions of Komsomol activity;

d) personally participate in meetings and sessions of Komsomol organs during the discussion of the question of its activity;

e) appeal to the Komsomol organization for character references and recommendations;

f) obtain information at the disposal of the Komsomol organs and address questions, statements, and suggestions to any Komsomol organ, right up to the congress of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces and the VLKSM;

g) participate in the work of other social associations whose principles and activity do not violate the Constitution and do not impede the implementation of the program documents and Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

8. A member of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is obliged to:

a) participate actively in the performance of tasks determined by program documents and observe the requirements of the Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces;

b) be concerned about the authority of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces;

c) perform his patriotic and military duty for defending the Homeland.

9. Termination of Membership in the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

Membership in the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is terminated:

a) at the request of the Komsomol member after he has given notification of this in writing to the primary organization and turned in his Komsomol card;

b) because he has become too old for membership in the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces if the Komsomol member has not submitted an application for extension of the period of membership in the Komsomol and also if he has not been elected to Komsomol organs and is not doing Komsomol work;

c) because he has transferred to another subject of the federation.

10. Expulsion From the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

The question of expulsion from the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces and the VLKSM is decided by the primary organization. The decision is considered adopted if more than half of the Komsomol members attending the meeting have voted for it.

An individual expelled from the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces and the VLKSM has the right within two months' time to submit an appeal to the higher Komsomol organs, right up to the VLKSM Central Committee.

III. Organizational Structure

11. Komsomol organizations of the USSR Armed Forces are created taking into account the fact that military service is performed away from home, in keeping with the structure of the armed forces, in the place of service, work, or training of the Komsomol members.

12. The highest organ of the Komsomol organization is the general meeting or conference, and for the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces—the congress. The meeting, conference, or congress is authorized if more than half of the members of the organization or elected deputies participate in it. Decisions are made by a majority of votes of those in attendance.

13. Komsomol organizations form their own elective organs—Komsomol committees and councils of Komsomol organizations.

14. Komsomol organizations of the USSR Armed Forces may create audit commissions, whose activity is regulated by the corresponding provisions.

15. Elective Komsomol organs are authorized to make decisions if more than half of their members are in attendance at the meetings. Decisions are made by a majority of the votes of those in attendance.

16. The organizational unity of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is provided by a community of program goals and principles and delegation from below to above of part of their authority, funds, and representatives to higher organs.

17. The elective organization that unites the Komsomol members of the various branches and arms of the USSR Armed Forces, districts, associations, units, subdivisions, institutions, enterprises, and military training institutions of the USSR Ministry of Defense is the one that is above all other elective Komsomol organizations that comprise it.

IV. Primary Komsomol Organizations

18. The primary organizations comprise the basis of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces and are created in regiments, individual battalions, divisions, squadrons, companies, batteries, and subdivisions on an equal footing with them, ships of ranks 1, 2, and 3,

divisions of small ships, staffs, administrations (departments) and institutions, and in faculties and battalions of military training institutions. The primary organizations independently determine their internal structure and forms and methods of work in keeping with the existing program documents and the Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

19. In addition to the authority granted by the VLKSM Regulations, the primary organizations have the right:

—to address any levels of the USSR Armed Forces concerning questions of exercise and protection of the rights of the Komsomol members and youth envisioned by USSR legislation and other normative documents;

—to make suggestions to the command and organs for management of the troops and naval forces regarding questions of improvement of educational work, organization of the service, life, recreation, and leisure of youth, and the creation of conditions for the activity of Komsomol organizations;

—to participate in the resolution of social problems of youth through their representatives in state organs and public formations;

—to give character references and recommendations to members of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces when they are transferred in the service and in other necessary cases;

—to render aid in the creation and functioning of youth social formations (clubs, circles, centers, and so forth which have goals that do not contradict the program documents or the Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces);

—to conduct correspondence with central and local Komsomol and social organizations and the Komsomol media on their own behalf.

20. The decision to create a primary organization is made by an organizational meeting with the participation of no less than three Komsomol members, and, on the basis of an excerpt from the minutes, it is registered with the higher Komsomol organ.

21. The higher organ of the primary Komsomol organization is the general meeting, which is held as necessary but no less frequently than once every three months. The general meeting of Komsomol members of the primary organization elects a secretary and, if necessary, the elective organ elects a Komsomol committee and determines the term of its office. The elective organ (secretary) organizes the current work of the Komsomol organization.

Komsomol committees may create councils, commissions, and work groups for various areas of Komsomol work and also use other forms of drawing Komsomol members into the activity of the elective organs.

In cases where, because of conditions for the service, work, and training of the Komsomol members, it is not possible to convene a general meeting of the local organization, delegate Komsomol meetings may be conducted.

The norms for representation in delegate meetings are established by the corresponding elective organs, and delegates are elected by open voting at Komsomol meetings and in organizations with the rights of primary organizations.

In Komsomol organizations of units, ships, institutions, and organizations of the USSR Armed Forces with shift work, the activity of the Komsomol meeting may be conducted on shifts.

22. The decision to disband a local organization is made by a meeting of the given organization if no less than two-thirds of the members of the organization have voted in favor of it. In the event of the actual curtailment of the activity of the primary organization or if its activity violates the program documents and Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces, the decision to disband the organization may be made by the higher elective organ.

V. Komsomol Organizations of the Branches and Arms of the USSR Armed Forces, Districts, Fleets, Groups of Forces, Associations, Units, Institutions, Enterprises, and Military Training Institution of the USSR Ministry of Defense

23. In order to coordinate their activity and have more effective interaction with the command, and military-political, state, and social organs and organizations, the primary organizations unite into Komsomol organizations of the branches and arms of the USSR Armed Forces, districts, fleets, groups of forces, associations, units, institutions, enterprises and military training institutions of the USSR Department of Defense, which arrange their work on the basis of program documents, the Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces, and decisions of the higher Komsomol organs.

24. The highest organ of the Komsomol organization of the arms and branches of the USSR Armed forces, districts, fleets, groups of forces, associations, units, institutions, enterprises, and military training institutions of the USSR Department of Defense is the conference which is convened as necessary but no less than once every three years.

25. The Komsomol organizations of the arms and branches of the USSR Armed Forces, districts, fleets, groups of forces, associations, units, institutions, enterprises, and military training institutions of the USSR Ministry of Defense form their elective organs—Councils of Komsomol Organizations (SKO) and audit commissions.

The elective organ of the corresponding organization organizes and coordinates the work of the Komsomol

organization during the period between conferences and convenes as necessary but no less frequently than once every six months.

26. Within the competence of the SKO are:

—convening Komsomol conferences and determining the time and place for conducting them and the norms of representation of delegates;

—forming bureaus of the SKO for organizing its work during the period between plenums, electing the chairman of the SKO and his deputies, and determining their rights and work procedure;

—hearing discussions and approving reports from the SKO bureaus and councils of lower Komsomol organizations;

—periodically informing the higher elective organ of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces about the results of its activity, attitudes, problems, and suggestions from Komsomol members and youth as well as the lower organizations concerning the implementation of decisions of conferences and their own activity;

—recommending Komsomol members for election to the higher Komsomol elective organ and local Komsomol organs, and making recommendations about recalling or replacing them;

—considering and resolving any issue within the limits of the authority delegated to it;

—considering appeals, letters, and statements from Komsomol members, adopting decisions concerning reinstatement of expelled Komsomol members in the VLKSM and the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces;

—resolving issues related to the use of monetary funds formed at its level;

—interacting with the command, military and political organs, state, political, and social organizations, and the mass media in the interests and on behalf of its organization.

VI. Central Organs of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces

27. The highest organ of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is the congress. The regular congress of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is convened no less frequently than once every three years. The decision to convene the congress is made by the plenum of the VSKO. Extra congresses are convened on the initiative of the plenum of the VSKO and also by a decision of Komsomol organizations that include no less than one-fourth of the members of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

The decision to convene the congress and the order of the day are announced no later than two months before the congress.

28. Delegates to the congress are elected by closed (secret) vote. The norm for representation and the procedure for election of the delegates are established by the plenum of the VSKO.

29. The congress resolves all issues having to do with the life and activity of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces without exception.

The executive authority of the congress includes:

a) the adoption of decisions from reports on the activity of the VSKO and the Audit Commission of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces;

b) the adoption of program documents and the Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces;

c) the adoption of Provisions on the Audit Commission of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces and the election of the Audit Commission of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces;

30. During the period between congresses the work of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is led by the VSKO.

The All-Army Council of Komsomol Organizations of the USSR Armed Forces:

a) forms bureaus from members of the VSKO for organizing the work of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces between plenums;

b) elects the chairman of the VSKO;

c) makes decisions about the agenda, time, and place of the congress;

d) approves the structure, apparatus staff, and budget of the VSKO and the report on its fulfillment;

e) determines the procedure for accounting for Komsomol members;

f) determines the procedure for conducting elections of Komsomol organs.

31. The plenum of the bureau of the VSKO is convened no less frequently than once every six months.

The convening of the plenum of the VSKO and the order of the day are announced, as a rule, no later than a month before the VSKO.

The VSKO plenum may also be convened at the request of no less than one-fourth of the VSKO members or at the suggestion of organizations that include no less than one-fourth of the members of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

The VSKO plenum is considered authorized if more than half of the elected members of the council participate in it.

32. During the period between congresses, the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces, by a decision of the VSKO or on the initiative of organizations that include no less than one-fourth of the members of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces, in order to resolve urgent political and intra-Union problems or to make changes in program documents and the Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces, may convene a conference of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces. The procedure for conducting the conference, the norm for representation, and the procedure for election of delegates are determined by the plenum of the VSKO.

33. During the period between congresses, the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces, by a decision of the VSKO or on the initiative of organizations that include no less than one-fourth of the members of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces, may hold a referendum to resolve the most important political and intra-Union problems that arise in the life and activity of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

The procedure for holding the referendum is determined by the VSKO. The referendum is considered valid if more than half of the Komsomol members participate in it. The decision of the referendum is considered adopted if more than half of the members of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces who participated in it have voted in favor of it.

VII. The Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces and State Organs and Public Associations

34. The Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces arranges its relations with state organs and public associations on the basis of the constitution and legislation of the USSR and in keeping with principles of full organizational independence and readiness for constructive dialogue for purposes of consolidating efforts directed toward resolving a broad range of youth problems mainly in the interests of its members.

VIII. Property of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces

35. Organizations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces represented by their elective organs are the owners of that part of VLKSM property which is formed at their level, they have the right to possess, use, and dispose of it, and they are legal entities.

The property of the Komsomol organizations of the armed forces is used to achieve the goals earmarked by the program documents and Regulations of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

36. Komsomol organizations of the armed forces may create youth enterprises and institutions and conduct foreign economic activity. The procedure for their creation, functioning, reorganization, and elimination is determined by the VSKO in keeping with USSR legislation.

37. The monetary funds of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces are formed from membership dues, funds coming in from various kinds of activity, revenues from economic and business activity, and deductions from the profit of enterprises and economic organizations created by the elective organs of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces or with their participation, and so forth, and also centralized funds of the VLKSM allotted for use by the VSKO of the USSR Armed Forces.

Incomes of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces may also include voluntary individual contributions, funds coming in from labor collectives, state, cooperative, and other enterprises, organizations, and institutions, and also other sources.

The budget of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is formed from below to above.

38. The monthly membership dues are established in the following amounts.

With monthly income:

—up to 100 rubles [R]—they pay 0.5 percent;

—from R101 to R150—they pay 1.0 percent;

—more than R150—they pay 1.5 percent.

The following are exempt from payment of Komsomol dues: Komsomol members who are being trained in military orchestras, Suvorov, Nakhimov, and military musical schools, students in secondary schools abroad, and also other individuals, by a decision of the primary Komsomol organization.

IX. Termination of the Activity of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces

The activity of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces may be terminated through reorganization (merging, attaching, dividing) or liquidation.

The reorganization of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is carried out by a decision of the congress of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces.

The liquidation of the Komsomol Organization of the USSR Armed Forces is carried out by a decision of the congress in light of the results of a referendum during the course of which more than two-thirds of the members of the Komsomol organization have voted in favor of this or on the basis of and according to the procedure envisioned by Article 22 of the USSR law "On Public Associations."

Arkhipov on Rear Services' Move to Market

91SV0030A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Jul 91 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Army General V. Arkhipov, USSR deputy defense minister, chief Rear Services of USSR Armed Forces, by P. Altunin; place and date not given: "Rear Services—On the Threshold of the Market"]

[Text] **Market relations are powerfully invading our economy. And the armed forces are not remaining on the sidelines; their material and technical supply is interwoven in the tightest way with the corresponding branches of the country's industry and agriculture. A direct sense of market elements in the Army entities is experienced above all by the Rear Services of the Armed Forces. In this connection we asked Army General V. Arkhipov, USSR deputy minister of defense and chief of the Rear Services of the USSR Armed Forces, to answer a few questions.**

[Altunin] Vladimir Mikhaylovich, the armed forces and market relations—how does one combine these two seemingly incompatible concepts?

[Arkhipov] The problem of the market, frankly, is especially difficult for us. They are now working on solving it in the main staffs of the various branches of the armed forces, in our rear services staff, in all the main and central administrations of the Ministry of Defense, in scientific research organizations, and in the military training institutions. I would note that the problem here is not only, and not so much, the armed forces as the state. This is why now, in the final stage of the work on the draft concept for the entry of the USSR Armed Forces into the market economy, civilian ministries were included in it—the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economics and Forecasting, and so forth.

The fact is that market relations presuppose above all an essential increase in prices of products delivered to the armed forces. And, consequently, there must be a corresponding increase in budget allocations for defense. But in reality the Ministry of Defense is not receiving additional monetary funds adequate to the higher prices. In comparable 1990 prices the country's defense budget dropped by 30 percent. The main and central administrations of the Ministry of Defense are in an extremely difficult position. They do not have enough money to place orders with industry on a contractual basis for substantial property, food, fuel, medicine, the necessary technical equipment for the rear services, and so forth.

Things have reached a point where this year it was with a great deal of difficulty that we managed to provide uniforms for the young lieutenants graduating from the military schools. If the situation does not stabilize and improve in the near future the armed forces will be faced with the necessity of using our emergency reserve. But then it will not last very long either.

[Altunin] But what about combat readiness?

[Arkhipov] We must maintain combat readiness and defense adequacy under all conditions. This is our sacred duty. But in the current situation we must take radical measures to find additional nonbudget funds.

[Altunin] May we know which ones specifically?

[Arkhipov] There are a fair number of them. In the first place, we must conduct an inventory in the armed forces in order to determine possible volumes of sales of worn-out and obsolete military equipment and property on the domestic and foreign markets. But in the near future we must also legalize the right of the Ministry of Defense to sell this property and use the income from it for its own needs. Strange as it may seem, this right of the Ministry of Defense is being disputed by other state structures which are trying to appropriate it for themselves.

We have now received consent in principle from the Ministry of Defense to conduct an experiment in selling some of the property through commodity exchanges at market prices, which promises a significant increase in incomes from this kind of activity. The additional funds that are received will be used mainly for the construction of housing for military servicemen.

In the second place, we intend to sharply increase the volume of agricultural output obtained from military sovkhozes [state farms] and kolkhozes [collective farms] and subsidiary farms of military units in order to provide the armed forces with their own food products for several months out of the year. But this must be done not by using personnel from combat subdivisions for agricultural work but by creating subdivisions staffed on a professional basis for support and service which would do all the farm work. These subdivisions could also be staffed with hired workers and individuals who are performing alternative service.

Good prospects are also promised from the creation in military units of Western-style farms that would provide these units with agricultural products on a contractual, mutually advantageous basis throughout the year.

Third, many industrial enterprises impose unacceptable conditions when concluding agreements for the production and delivery of products for the armed forces: monopolistically high prices for products, partial payment for products in hard currency, the assignment of personnel for work at the enterprises, means of transportation, construction materials, and so forth. Therefore we intend to create a number of our own small enterprises for processing agricultural products and producing hosiery items, footwear, military gear, medical instruments and equipment, and consumer goods. The money saved here will be used in the interests of improving the social and living conditions for military servicemen.

Fourth, there is the foreign economic activity of the armed forces. There are considerable reserves here. I have in mind above all the training of military specialists

from foreign countries in our military training institutions. It is paradoxical but a fact that practically all the hard currency earned this way is not turned over to the Ministry of Defense but to the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations. Incidentally, this is also reflected in the level of domestic and medical service of foreign students.

A similar situation is developing with respect to granting foreign countries transportation services with military air transport and auxiliary Navy ships, the sale of scrap metal, and so forth. We are now taking obvious losses. Consequently, the interest in carrying out this activity is not great but there are reserves for expanding it and increasing its effectiveness.

But the decision to distribute income from foreign economic activity between the Ministry of Defense and other state structures is fair and concrete, and it should be adopted immediately at the government level.

And, finally, the partial decentralization of rear service support that is now taking place requires expansion of the rights of the chiefs and commanders to allow military units, organizations, and institutions to render paid services to civilian organizations and the population on a mutually advantageous basis.

[Altunin] What do you have in mind?

[Arkhipov] The provision of means of transportation, engineering equipment, and assistance from specialists. The repair of sets of equipment, instruments, and machinery in the shops of military units. Barter transactions in order to obtain additional materials, needed technical equipment, and surplus agricultural products for military servicemen, workers, and employees. Of course, this kind of activity must, on the one hand, be stimulated and encouraged, and, on the other, it must be kept strictly within the framework of the law.

I think the armed forces should be reimbursed for expenses involved in carrying out government assignments for harvesting crops. These too are kinds of services, which until recently were rendered free of charge. There was wear and tear on automotive equipment and military and technical property, and fuel, food, substantial property, and medications were used, but all of this was not fully replaced or paid for. And market relations presume that it is necessary to pay for everything. But this should not be understood as payment to the armed forces. It would be more correct to call it compensation for the share of the state budget spent on defense.

[Altunin] Vladimir Mikhaylovich, it just so happens that our conversation is taking place during the days when the staff of the Rear Services of the Armed Forces is turning 50 years old. From the perspective of the present day, how would you characterize the development of the rear services?

[Arkhipov] As we know, in the years before the war there was no unified entity for rear services in the Red Army. There were only individual administrations and services under various supervisors which were independent of one another. Even the first days of the war that began in 1941 showed that there was a persistent need to change the principles of leadership and the structure of the rear services.

On 1 August 1941, by an order of the People's Commissar of Defense, the Main Administration of Rear Services of the Red Army was instituted. Its chief was General A.V. Khrulev. The rear services staff was created by this same order. Its generals and officers participated most directly in preparing for and providing rear service support for the largest operations.

As for the postwar years, the main tasks facing the rear were its technical retooling, improvement of organizational structures, and the development of new methods of fighting on battlefields.

[Altunin] Do you have all the same tasks today?

[Arkhipov] Yes, of course. But they have become more complicated. The rear services staff is now truly the "brain center" which determines and develops the basic and general directions for the further development of the rear services and the problematic questions of its functioning under the new economic conditions. The volume of work of the rear services staff officers has increased immeasurably in connection with the reform that is being implemented, the country's transition to a market economy, and the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the countries of East Europe.

Yazov Meets With Army Personnel Attending Rally

PM0508135991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Aug 91 Second Edition p 1

['Our correspondent' report: "Meeting With USSR Defense Minister"]

[Text] The rally of party committee secretaries and control commission chairmen of the USSR Armed Forces CPSU organization continued its work 31 July.

A meeting between Marshal D.T. Yazov, USSR minister of defense, and rally participants took place in the Soviet Army's M.V. Frunze Central House.

There was a frank and principled conversation about ways of further renewing the Soviet Armed Forces, and about the need to improve the activities of commanders, military-political organs, and party organizations in light of the changed situation in the world and the regions, the acuteness of the political struggle in society—including

also the struggle for influence within the army—and the new approaches to defense problems.

Great attention was devoted to questions of young people's patriotic education in the heroic traditions of front-line veterans. The coordinated work of military-political organs and army and navy party organizations in connection with the 50th anniversary of the most important events of the Great Patriotic War is intended to play a significant role in this.

Marshal of the Soviet Union D.T. Yazov, USSR minister of defense, answered numerous questions from rally participants.

An account of the meeting that took place will be published in a future issue of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

Military's Party Leaders Briefed on Plenum

PM0508132191 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 31 Jul 91 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "At the Center of Attention: The Results of the Plenum"]

[Text] A meeting was held 30 July between A.S. Dzasokhov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and party committee secretaries of CPSU organizations of military districts, groups of forces, fleets, categories of the USSR Armed Forces, the USSR KGB Border Troops, and the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs Internal Troops. The meeting participants were briefed on the results of the CPSU Central Committee July (1991) Plenum. Special attention was devoted to questions concerning the elaboration and contents of the draft CPSU Program.

Estonia

Savisaar Threatens Unilateral Independence

OW0608200491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1815 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Estonian Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar (and one of the leaders of the republican Popular Front) said at a meeting of the leaders of the Estonian Popular Front on Sunday that unless talks begin with Moscow on Estonian independence within the next three months, the republic will have to proclaim its independence unilaterally, according to the Estonian newspaper RAHVA HAAL's August 6 issue.

"In this case we must make known to Moscow the independence date," said the premier. "Concurrently, Estonia would have to establish control over its borders, divide the monetary systems, adopt an interim constitution and hold an election," said Savisaar, according to the newspaper.

Savasaar said at a briefing on Monday that at its meeting on August 5 the Estonian Government had heard a report of the commission developing an interim constitution and had decided to speed up work.

More on Conference on Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact

LD0608124791 Tallinn Estonian Radio in English 2030 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] The parliaments of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania will organize an international conference on 21-23 August in the Baltic capitals to mark the 52d anniversary of the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact. That act led to the annexation of the Baltic states by the Soviet Union in 1940. The conference is called Baltic Freedom and Newer Europe and it will start in Tallinn on 21 August with a seminar on market economy. On 22 August the conference will travel to Riga to discuss [word indistinct] and democracy. On 23 August participants will go to Vilnius to have debates on the issue of freedom, peace, and stability in Europe.

Republic Fodder Shortage May Cause Problems

OW0708005991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1815 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estonian Economy Minister Jaak Leimann told the press on August 6 that republican agriculture may soon face difficulties because, he said, Estonia's stock breeders import most of the grain fodder they use from the USSR. According to Leimann, Estonia imported some 1.5 mln. tons of grain in 1990 and half as much in 1991. No contract has been signed for the purchase of grain in 1993, and it is not impossible that Estonia will have to pay hard currency for the fodder it will buy in the USSR. The economy minister made known that Estonia has already held talks with Finland, Sweden, Poland and Hungary on grain purchases.

More on Republic's Fishing Dispute With Center

OW0508054191 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1630 GMT 2 Aug 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian Minister for the Protection of the Environment, Tonis Kaasik, was in Moscow on Thursday to sign an agreement with his Russian counterpart on the joint use of fish resources in Lake Chudskoye.

The minister is also meeting with the USSR Minister of Fisheries in an attempt to resolve the conflict that has arisen between the USSR and Estonia during the last week over the fishing issue.

On 7th May, the Soviet Government adopted a resolution imposing a special tax for every ton of fish caught.

On 15th July an order of the USSR Minister of Fisheries stated that those republics that had not paid the taxes would be refused fishing licences. According to the decree, Estonia would have to pay five million roubles, including four million for the Baltic catch.

However, Estonia has categorically refused to do so because in its declaration of sovereignty of 16th November, 1988 it declared all fish resources in its 200 mile economic zone to be its own property.

According to Mr. Kaasik, if the conflict were to escalate, Soviet military vessels could conceivably intervene against Estonian fishing boats. In an interview with the newspaper, Rahva Haal, the Estonian Minister for the Protection of the Environment, stated that in order to resolve the dispute a four-party agreement on fishing rights between the three Baltic republics and Russia had been suggested. Plans for this have already been drawn up.

Latvia

Supreme Council Opens Third Session 6 Aug

OW0608154791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1430 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] On August 6th third session of the Latvian Supreme Council opened in Riga.

During the first two days deputies will discuss 14 Draft laws: on amendments and additions to the Penal Code, on environmental protection, on cooperative forms of ownership, etc.

Foreign Minister Jurkans Meets Shevardnadze

LD0708024891 Riga Radio Riga International in English 2030 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs of Latvia, Mr. Janis Jurkans, and the deputy minister, Martin (Schwirsis), had a meeting with the ex-Foreign Minister and the current Chairman of the USSR Association of Foreign

Affairs Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze. They discussed several major issues; among them were the questions relating to the present political situation in the country, activities of the recently formed democratic reforms movement, and possible cooperation between his association and Latvian Foreign Ministry. Shevardnadze suggested that it's important to connect the Baltic strive for independence with the democratization process in the USSR as a whole. The utmost task now is to make the pressure from the democrats (?to) the Soviet President Gorbachev. The chairman of the Foreign Ministry characterized the Russian democratic reform movement to be a good ally. It is expected that Mr. Shevardnadze will visit Latvia in September this year to help consolidate democratic movements of national minorities in Latvia.

Baltic Economics Ministers Meet UK's Lamont

LD0508033991 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1730 GMT 3 Aug 91

[Text] Norman Lamont, UK chancellor of the Exchequer and G-7 coordinator, met in Moscow with leaders and representatives of those republics that are prepared to sign the Union treaty, as well as representatives of those republics that favor complete independence. He was particularly interested in the level of privatization in the republics and the relations between the Union and republican governments. To a question from Janis Peters, head of the permanent representation of Latvia in Moscow, Lamont replied: The West perceives the Baltic republics just as it does Eastern Europe—that is, as a bridge to economic relations between East and West. The minister promised not to forget Janis Peters' proposal about possible Western assistance to the Republic of Latvia in the modernization of three harbors: Riga, Ventspils, and Liepaja. The UK chancellor of the Exchequer also attended a breakfast honoring the economics ministers of the three Baltic republics.

Republic Economic Situation Remains 'Complicated'

LD0608183491 Moscow TASS in English 1629 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Valeriy Zaitsev]

[Text] Riga August 6 TASS—The first bill, adopted by Latvian parliamentarians at their third session that opened here today, was the "Law on Cooperative Societies".

Speaking at the plenary meeting, Chairman of the Republican Supreme Soviet Anatoliy Gorbunovs noted that the economic situation remains complicated. The amount of production declined by almost five per cent over the past six months. Expenses of local budgets surpass profits.

According to Gorbunovs, electors have made many critical remarks about the performance of the Supreme Soviet and its standing commissions.

The present composition of the Supreme Soviet has adopted 312 laws and resolutions. But, unfortunately, the amount of normative and legislative acts does not help the growth of local residents' well-being.

Coupons No Longer Needed To Buy Gas, Liquor

PM0608152391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report from the IZVESTIYA, IAN, RIA, AP, REUTER, UPI roundup: "Gasoline in Latvia Without Coupons"]

[Text] Latvia's Nafta [as transliterated], the firm which deals in the sale of petroleum products on the republic's territory, has abolished coupons for gasoline as of 1 August. Now private vehicle owners are free to fill their tanks (up to 50 liters) at any time and as often as they wish. Admittedly, any day now the republic Council of Ministers is due to sign a document on the basis of which the price of AI-93 gasoline will increase from 50 to 60 kopecks per liter.

The Latvian Trade Ministry has not let the consumer down either. IAN reports that as of 1 August it abolished coupons on spirits, introducing so-called "free prices" for these goods.

Non-Violent Resistance Center Decision Postponed

LD0308141591 Riga Radio Riga International in Latvian 0430 GMT 3 Aug 91

[Text] There is a demand for the concept of non-violent resistance to be worked out more thoroughly. The Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Latvia has proposed that the adoption of a resolution on the question of creating a center of so-called non-violent resistance in Latvia be postponed.

The head of the non-violent resistance center of the Presidium of the present Supreme Council of the Republic of Latvia, Odisejs Kostanda, has acquainted members of the Presidium with the propositions of the draft non-military defense concept. These are divided into three basic versions: in the event of a coup d'etat and establishment of dictatorship in the USSR, if it also effects Latvia; in the event of a coup d'etat in Latvia; and in the event of another state attacking Latvia. The basic principle of the concept—complete non-cooperation with the occupiers, and non-adherence to the opponent's endeavors, in order to make the control of the situation in Latvia impossible.

The Presidium has postponed adoption of the resolution for a week, demanding in place of the propositions a worked-out draft concept.

The head of the Supreme Council's Commission for Defense and Internal Affairs, Talavs Judzis, feels that the necessity of forming the center has, however, become urgent.

New Riga Radio Station Begins Operations 5 Aug

LD0608142691 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 0800 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Today—that is, Monday—at 1600 [1300 GMT], a new radio station started operating, broadcasting in the VHF range hitherto vacant in Latvia, FM in the western European band. The frequency of the new radio station is 102.7. Thereby an alternative to Latvian Radio has been created. The program is created by Riga Independent Broadcasting [Rigas Neatkarigas Raiditajs] and the commercial radio station (?Radio Rocks). The new Latvian radio calls itself [?Faction AA] (?property of listeners), the new radio program will be heard on a 17-hour service. Eighty percent will be music, 20 percent information and advertising. The possible date for regular transmission is 10 August. (?If you want to hear this radio program) unfortunately only owners of Western-made radios can do it because Latvian radio sets do not have FM frequencies.

Lithuania

Landsbergis Sends Telegram to Gorbachev on Events

LD0608141991 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Russian 1200 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Vytautas Landsbergis, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, has sent a telegram to USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev with the following contents, I quote:

Mr. President, the official explanation of Trubin, USSR procurator general, about the January (massacre?) of civilians in Vilnius was aimed at covering up the criminals and discrediting your country. Nobody has been punished or charged. The seized building of Lithuanian Television and Radio, despite your instruction to Doguzhiyev to sort out the issue of its return, is still in the hands of the soldiers subordinate to the will of your government. The archive funds and recordings are being destroyed. Yesterday in Vilnius the archive of the History Institute of the Academy of Sciences of Lithuania burned. Earlier, soldiers seized the institution in question. But the main thing, which is completely impermissible, is the constant outrages of OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment], which are also kept by and subordinate to the MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] of your government. The unbridled terrorist activity of the OMON men are most often directed against border checkpoints of the Republic of Lithuania. (Robberies) and arson are being committed and each time they are explained as being carried out according to your decree.

And now, on 31 July in Medininkai, a new, unprecedented crime was committed. [Words indistinct] were shot in the head. Over a period of half a year we have been requesting that OMON be removed from the territory of the Republic of Lithuania. You remained aloof and your government only awarded and armed OMON. We find it hard to explain this in any other way than [words indistinct]. Mr. President, we do not have much time. OMON must be withdrawn without delay. We must meet. The terrorists will continue to kill and these events will become unpredictable. I cannot believe that this is what you wish.

Medininkai Survivor Undergoes Another Operation

OW0508143591 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1405 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] Tomas Sernas, a Lithuanian customs officer heavily wounded July 30 to July 31 night during the attack on the Medininkai border post on the frontier with Belorussia underwent one more operation Sunday.

Speaking at a news briefing August 5, head of the Lithuanian parliamentary information bureau Rita Dapkute said Sernas was operated by an American neurosurgeon who had come from a U.S. military base located on the German territory. Rita Dapkute did not indicate his name.

She also pointed out that the American specialist, as well as Lithuanian doctors, are optimistic about Tomas Sernas' recovery. From time to time he regains consciousness but gets tired quickly.

Tomas Sernas' evidence could help investigate the murder of his seven colleagues.

Television Reports Further Details on Killings

LD0508182891 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1647 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Report by Svetlana Sorokina from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Sorokina] Another operation was performed yesterday on Tomas Sernas, the gravely wounded, only surviving customs officer from the Medininkai post. The operation was performed by an American neurosurgeon who believes Sernas will eventually recover. The wounded man occasionally regains consciousness. This was reported by the BALTFAX news agency.

The Lithuanian newspaper, RESPUBLIKA, has earmarked money for pensions to the children of those killed. Six little children are now fatherless. Each of them will be paid 500 rubles monthly until they come of age.

[Begin recording] [Reporter G. Fadeyeva] To be a customs official is the most dangerous occupation in Lithuania. The state flag, sporting a crepe band, has been hoisted on the republic's permanent mission in Moscow. Portraits of those killed at the Medininkai customs post are on display at the entrance. The republic's procuracy is now examining four versions of the killings.

[L.Vasiliauskas, press attache of the Lithuanian permanent mission] There is a version that the crime was committed by the military, while another ascribes it to the special purpose militia detachments. Another says it was perhaps a mafia attack, while the fourth version claims it was a vendetta, so to speak, from the Belorussian side.

[Fadeyeva] Let us point right away that the third and fourth versions—the mafia and Belorussian versions—are the least plausible. True, there is also a fifth version implicating the allegedly existing security service organization that defends the interests of Russians throughout USSR territory. One must agree that this reminds us of the notorious National Salvation Committee, which emerged in Vilnius last January. Searching for truth, the investigators are counting very much on the chance that Tomas Sernas, the only surviving customs officer of the eight, will regain consciousness at Kaunas hospital, and that his testimony will help the investigation.

[Sorokina] There is also something to add. Today the Shield [Shchit] Union circulated a statement based on the results of a preliminary investigation into the Medininkai killings. The investigation was carried out by independent military experts. The document places responsibility for elaborating and controlling the operation to kill the customs officials and border guards on the USSR State Security Committee. The goal of the operation—according to the Shield statement, I stress—was to carry out a crime of resounding proportions provoking negative political reverberations throughout the world. The Shield union believes that to ensure an objective investigation of the crime, an international commission of experts should be set up. [end recording]

'Shield' Blames KGB, OMON for Killings

LD0608173891 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1400 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] The BALTIC NEWS AGENCY has published the conclusions of the Shield [Shchit] experts concerning the murders in Medininkai.

In the opinion of the commission, the murders of Lithuanian customs and police officers in Medininkai on 31 July was prepared and organized by the USSR KGB. Moreover, assistance was provided by the Riga and Vilnius Special Purpose Militia Detachment [OMON].

The Baltic District military units did not participate in the operation. Their leadership, however, was advised of the preparations.

The Shield commission of experts asserts that the principal goal of the operation was to provide the widest possible bloody exposure of the crime rather than to cover it up.

In substantiating their report, the experts provided evidence, which in their view clearly shows the center's participation in the event.

The Shield commission has proposed the removal from Lithuania, without any delay, of all USSR KGB and OMON units, which have become the tools for interstate terrorism. It also called for the removal of Soviet Army units, which have illegally occupied the republic since 1940.

In the opinion of the Shield experts, the Lithuanian Government must form a rapid reaction unit to block the Soviet Union's armed terror among its territory.

Further on 'Shield' Investigation

OW0608185791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1430 GMT 6 Aug 1

[Text] The commission of the association for military servicemen's and their families' rights "Shield" has made public results of its investigation into the attack on Medininkai border post.

The commission found that the crime had been meticulously prepared. It believes the action "was planned and guided by the KGB. The Vilnius and Riga OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] special units performed auxiliary functions. The Baltic Military District was not involved but its command had been warned about the attack beforehand."

The commission has concluded that the final aim of the action was "to rouse a negative political response throughout the world".

Since the Soviet President confined himself to expressing condolences instead of stopping the escalation of political crime in the republic, the Central Government's involvement in the incident appears to be evident, the document points out.

The commission suggests that an international team of experts should be set up to investigate the crime objectively.

The "Shield" believes the OMON special troops should be immediately pulled out of Lithuania, as well as, within mutually acceptable terms, the Soviet Army units. Besides, "Shield" experts argue that the Lithuanian Government should form "rapid reaction forces to prevent the Soviet military from terrorizing the republic's population".

Alksnis Predicts Baltic 'River of Human Blood'

LD0508181191 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Russian 1200 GMT 4 Aug 91

[Text] We are sorry we did not manage to contact the law and order authorities of the republic in order to get their reaction to yesterday's report that responsibility for the killings of the customs officers was claimed by a group calling itself the "Security Group for the Defense of the Interests of Russians." We expected to receive some information from Colonel Viktor Alksnis, activist in the "Soyuz" group.

[Begin recording] [Alksnis] This could be act one of the start of a civil war in the Baltics. I support the point of view that what is currently taking place in the Baltics, and the Baltic apartheid that is taking place today, including the democratic Lithuania, all this after all [words indistinct] very bad indeed. I am more than convinced that in the end we will arrive at a situation like in Yugoslavia now between Serbs and Croatians.

So far everything here is proceeding within the framework of a rally-type democracy, and the confrontation is of a general character. However, I am sure that this cannot go on forever. Finally, all this will result in a river of human blood.

[Announcer] Viktor (?Imanovich), do you know anything about the organization that claimed responsibility for what happened?

[Alksnis] No, I don't. Is there already such an organization? So you see, I was right; because, as you see, there are extremists on both sides. And I know if the majority of the population is really not willing to take up arms against one another, which would result in bloodshed, however, the extremists on both the sides are already ready for this and [word indistinct]. Therefore, these extreme sides will drag all of us into a fratricidal slaughter.

Unfortunately, sad as it may be, the blame for this does not rest with those [word indistinct] but with the politicians who are not on (?the right road). If Lithuania went along the constitutional path in the implementation of its lawful right for self-determination, by lawful constitutional means, there would not be anything like this. And since there are violations of the Constitution on the one side, then on the other side the breaking of the law occurs, which is very sad indeed.

[Announcer] According to your point of view, what is the role of the center in this confrontation?

[Alksnis] The presence of the center is there. But the center is not capable of doing anything anymore. I assure you. You see what is going on in Yugoslavia, and I hope you understand that in Yugoslavia the center also is [words indistinct] in the confrontation between Serbs and Croatians. I would like to stress I am sure that here also the center in this situation (?cannot change anything). Confrontation is already in progress in the Baltics. This is sad. [end recording]

Soldier Dies in Republic Shooting Incident

LD0708094291 Moscow TASS in English 0931 GMT 7 Aug 91

[By TASS Correspondent Kazys Uscila]

[Text] Vilnius August 7 TASS—Nikolay Kukul, a Vilnius garrison serviceman, was injured and died on the way to hospital in the early hours of the morning today.

According to the Lithuanian Interior Ministry, "two very drunken soldiers from the local military garrison were behaving outrageously at 03:00 today."

When a duty policeman tried to call them to order, the soldiers made attempts to snatch his gun. A shot was fired in the melee, injuring Kukul. The other soldier was detained.

The military prosecutor's office of the Vilnius garrison has supplied no additional information to TASS.

Soldiers Said 'Absent Without Leave'

LD0708124691 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Text] Vilnius August 7 TASS—A spokesman for the military commandant's office of the Vilnius garrison confirmed to TASS that the incident in which one serviceman was killed in Vilnius last night "involved servicemen who were absent without official leave."

He said that the soldiers attempted "to steal a car, but its alarm system went off", which was followed by a conflict with a policeman who rushed to the scene. One serviceman was fatally wounded in the conflict.

An investigation is under way. Criminal proceedings have been instituted.

Prospects for Negotiations With USSR Discussed

LD0508211791 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] A sitting was held by the state delegation of the Republic of Lithuania for negotiations with the Soviet Union. The sitting discussed prospects for the preperation for negotiations at a time when the acts of coercion by the repressive structures of the Soviet Union are continuing. Numerous former demands of the Republic of Lithuania to withdraw the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] units from the territory of the Republic of Lithuania without delay and to free the buildings of the Lithuanian Radio and Television which were occupied by the Soviet troops during the massacre on 13th of January, were restated. Although on more than one occasion the Soviet side has officially promised officially to solve the issue of these buildings, these promises have not been kept. The continuing acts of coercion by the USSR repressive structures cannot be interpreted in any other way but as acts which reduce trust instead of increasing it.

It was decided at the sitting to attempt to obtain some signs of sincerity from the Soviet side. With this aim in mind Vytautas Landsbergis, head of the state delegation of the Republic of Lithuania, sent a telegram to V. Doguzhiyev, head of the USSR delegation in which two main issues for increasing trust were voiced: concerning the withdrawal of the OMON from the territory of the Republic of Lithuania and the withdrawal of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs troops from the occupied buildings of Lithuanian radio and television.

Vagnorius Links Money Surplus, Economic Crisis

LD0708015891 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius reports that this year's surplus of new banknotes issued by the USSR might reach R200-250 billion. Moreover, this amounts to nearly one-half the total money surplus accumulated throughout the long decades of Soviet life. This flow of

currency not backed by goods has engulfed Lithuania, ruining the market and emptying store shelves. Approximately R4 billion of this currency may be accorded to Lithuania this year, amounting to nearly one-half of Lithuania's national income during last year. These figures are presented in the Lithuanian prime minister's open letter to representatives of several public organizations who reportedly wrote a letter to Gediminas Vagnorius expressing their concern over the economic situation and the government policy. In actively implementing the chosen policy, the prime minister writes, the government has regained more than R1 billion, while if it had been passively observing the results of the Soviet economic crisis, each one of us in Lithuania would have lost R200-300 a month.

Details of Republic Poll on Radio, TV Stations

LD0608133191

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English at 2130 GMT on 5 August carries the regular "DX" program, which includes the results of a poll carried out by the Lithuanian radio and television weekly publication KALBA VILNIUS in May, reflecting how listeners and viewers evaluate radio and television programs in Lithuania. Opinions were voiced on a scale from -100 to +100. The announcer notes this is the second publication of the results, the first having been incorrect due to a computer fault. The results are read as follows:

Radio: first place, Radio Vilnius, namely the external service, scoring +74, three points higher than in a similar poll in November.

Second, the private Radio Centras, +73, no November comparison as the station went on the air in January.

Third, Lithuanian Radio First Program, +62, up two on November.

Fourth, the Second Program, +56, up 21.

Fifth, another new private station, Radiofonas Vilnius Varpas, +56.

Last, Moscow Radio's Mayak, +32, down eight, the only drop in popularity among radio stations.

The announcer voices the opinion that the results have drawbacks in that not all stations are included in the poll, for example, Kaunas Radiofonas is not, while the three programs of Lithuanian Radio are evaluated separately, giving no overall view of the station. The drop in the popularity of Mayak could reflect a general decline in trust in the Soviet media after the 13 January massacre.

For television, again not all stations are covered in the poll. First place goes to satellite television, without any further specification by station, +69, not evaluated in November.

Second, Polish Television, +50, up four.

Third, Lithuanian Television, +46, up 14.

Fourth, Moscow Central Television Second Program, +20, up three.

Fifth, Moscow Central Television First Program, +9, down 26 points on November.

Officials To Ensure Adherence to Food Trade Laws

LD0408023691 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 3 Aug 91

[Excerpts] Considering citizens' complaints about the unsatisfactory organization of sales of meat and other basic food products—including, primarily, the cheaper types of meat products—as well as being mindful of the fact that the government of the Republic of Lithuania allots for the Republic's population supplies, sufficient product resources, and subsidies from its budget to cover the food product price [word indistinct], the government directs the heads of city and rayon administrations and the city mayors and rayon heads, as well as trade section and rayon co-op association chiefs and store managers, to ensure personally adherence to balanced trade practices in cheaper, as well as more expensive, meat products and other food items. [passage omitted]

The Agriculture Ministry and Deputy Minister (Slezevicius), the Trade Ministry and Deputy Minister Rumskas, and the meat and dairy product processing enterprise chiefs have been directed to ensure that demands will be filled for all basic types of meat and dairy products. [passage omitted]

The Economics Ministry, in coordination with the Trade Ministry, must define the prices of certain types of products. The Economics Ministry and Deputy Minister Jasaviciene are directed, along with the State Control Department of the Republic of Lithuania, to supervise implementation of this decree and to ascertain whether the trading procedures in various food products is being violated.

Communist Party Central Committee Plenum Held

Polozkov Address Cited

LD0608211391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1814 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 6 Aug (TASS)—The following is the full text of the speech by Ivan Polozkov at the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Communist Party Central Committee plenum:

Comrades: Our plenum is devoted to the political situation in the republic and the tasks of the Communist Party. You have received the Politburo theses in advance. This saves me from making a detailed report, especially since I believe that the events of the past weeks confirm the well-grounded nature of our estimates. The situation in the republic is becoming more acute. Social tension is being aggravated by the increasing political tension and direct encroachments on the democratic rights of citizens. We have stated in our theses that the pivotal point of our political life is the struggle between the two lines—two fundamental courses.

On the one hand, there are those who came forward to support perestroyka as announced by the Communist Party in 1985. These people saw this as a chance for renewing socialism, for destroying all the obstacles that have appeared in our way and that hinder our progress, and for raising the level of our economy, culture, and people's well-being.

On the other hand, there are the liberal radicals. They aspire to a radical change of social order and destruction of our social gains. By pushing Russia into the Western ways, they trample on our people's humanitarian traditions, which were accumulated during the thousand years-old history of our state.

The complexity of the present situation is that those who support perestroyka, the revival of our Fatherland, and improvement of the life of our people are being called conservatives. This is not all that bad, but this is being done by those who want to return our society to the old boundaries that have long since been passed through, to the uncontrolled market, and to the dominance of private property. These are the real reactioneers who, by their reckless actions, are heating up the situation in society and leading the whole country to destruction.

Unfortunately, not everyone understands what is happening, what is the true disposal of the forces, who is who. However, the masses are beginning to see things clearly. The mist that hung for a long time over the political stage is gradually dispersing. The positions of the Russian Communists appear clearly and convincingly.

In no way have we given up the interests of the people. We are not ashamed in the face of those who have given their lives for socialism and for the freedom of their homeland. We will not be ashamed in the face of future generations. The attempts of our opponents (among whom, incidentally, is a majority of former functionaries of the party who have been nurtured by the party)—which include ignoring today's activities by the Russian Communist Party, constantly and with fanatical delight trying to exploit the topic of its supposed guilt, demanding repentance and directing abuse even at young people who have recently joined the ranks of the Communists—merely confirm their blind malice and helplessness. Time—the supreme judge—will give their due both to us Communists and to those who are currently trying crudely to deceive the people.

The inability of the radical democrats to resolve in a professional way the problems that face the country and their inability to lead and govern in a statesmanlike way are being revealed ever more clearly today. Under the loud slogans praising democracy, society is being led further and further into a blind alley, the way out of which no one yet sees. Never in recent decades has the situation in Russia been so complicated. Never before have the working people suffered so severely. In order to distract their attention from their real goals, the false democrats lay the blame for all the misfortunes on socialism, on the past 70 years, on the older generations. They stage noisy anticommunist orgies and spectacles. Some of them allow themselves to threaten to hang Communists, while others impose vocational bans, and still others think only about their own well-being.

The Communist Party of Russia has become the target for particularly frenzied attacks. Why?

It is because only by undermining it can the CPSU be removed from the political arena. For the moment this is the basic obstacle on the path of reaction. Former party members are acting as the chief directors of this second-rate performance. But as I have already said: People can be deceived for a year or two, but sooner or later, the moment of truth will dawn. This is also why the anti-communist baying is growing stronger.

The majority of Communists have reacted negatively to the recent political show—the attempt to form the so-called "Democratic Party of the Communists of Russia." The Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Russia has expressed its attitude toward this self-styled group.

Our opponents hope that we will fall apart and will not get through this acute situation. They also suggest that there is panic in our ranks. As Rutskoy stated, there will be "hysteria" at the current plenum. I think that we will not give them this satisfaction.

Nevertheless, we must adopt a decision today. The CPSU Central Committee has already made its statement. This party will not be recognized within the ranks of the CPSU. I am convinced that many Russian Communists will not go along with this dubious tendency.

The RSFSR Communist Party is being attacked on another flank, too. I refer to the RSFSR president's decree on departyization. This decree is condemned by a

broad spectrum of public opinion. It is not by chance that those who dreamed it up have already "explained" that it does not affect youth, women's, and veterans' organizations, nor other organizations. Further work must be done to uncover this crudely arbitrary act, this attack against democracy.

It is important to give a balanced and sober evaluation of the situation. It is also necessary to define our line of action and to work with certainty and calm.

First and foremost, it is necessary to preserve the primary party organizations, and to guarantee their activities and their ability to stand up for the rights of the working people. It must be made clear to the leaders of enterprises that the threats to fine them if party organizations are not withdrawn from their enterprises do not have any legal basis.

But if a situation of a regrouping of our ranks and the creation of mainly territorial organizations should develop, then this work must be carried out without panic. It is important that cooperation between party bureaus and committees and trade union and other public organizations is radically improved and that collectives are assisted in adopting the correct position on questions of removal from state control and privatization. Communist deputies must table to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, the supreme soviets of the autonomous republics, and kray and oblast soviets of people's deputies proposals on suspending the fulfillment of the RSFSR presidential decree during the period for the examination by the Committee for Supervision of the Constitution of the law's compliance with the Constitution and USSR laws. You are acquainted with the recommendations on this score. I would not like to repeat them, but we will have to discuss the problem of departyization. All Communists must be informed about them.

The task of preserving and strengthening the party and its unity stands out particularly acutely. This question was raised with due force at the recent CPSU Central Committee plenum, which examined the draft of the new program. Its results and the documents that it adopted are of key significance for our discussion, too.

Even before the plenum the public and the press of all hues—both at home and abroad—allocated an exceptional role to it.

It was predicted that it would be a turning point in the development of the party and the whole of society. Many, not without gloating, expected a split in the party, or, at least, pernicious bickering and an exacerbation of confrontation. Now, somewhat confused, these people are seeking explanations as to why this did not happen.

For us, one thing is important: The plenum was held under the sign of a strengthening of unity and the consolidation of the party.

The politburo's aim of slowing down centrifugal tendencies and weakening the interparty fight has found support among Central Committee members. The point of departure in the search for accord has become, as was envisaged, the draft program. It has provoked sharp, but constructive discussion. Some 30 people have made speeches. Among them are representatives of various platforms and tendencies. The plenum has reached the conclusion: The draft can serve as an acceptable basis for further work and discussion. The tasks of the party organizations have also been defined and it has been resolved to adopt the program at the extraordinary 29th congress. The agenda for drawing it up has been confirmed.

Comrades, undoubtedly, discussion of the draft program and preparations for the congress must occupy the central position in the life of our Russian Communist Party. It is a point of honor for all in the organization to carry out this work efficiently and with maximum benefit. We must organize the discussion in such a way that it will encourage the cohesion of Communists and will help to strengthen links and cooperation between the party and the workers' and peasants' movements and between the party and the democratic and patriotic groups. The party must come to the congress united around common ideas and goals. It goes without saying that we are not aiming for this at any price; even more so, we are not aiming for this at the cost of unprincipled deals and compromises. Probably not everyone can take up the new approaches. Some will leave, but the party must be preserved whole and ready for the fight.

What would I like to single out as the positive points in the draft? First and foremost, on the whole, the attempt to bring together in it a program for the future and a plan for concrete actions today and tomorrow is productive. This means that we are forming our views of the future not in the form of abstract, unsubstantiated political formulas, but that we understand them as a continuation, development, and goal of tangible, real tasks of the present day. This gives our actions a higher sense and allows us to calculate them better and gives them prospects for the future.

Second, the draft proves that the process of perestroyka is necessary. The task lies in continuing it and in creating a modern and progressive model of public relations. Such an approach is in line with the strivings of the Russian Communist Party, which is placing a stake in the consistent and profound renewal of Soviet society, without allowing its degeneration.

Third, it is a confirmation of the creative understanding of the dialectics of the revolution and the reform under new conditions, as well as the statement that revolutionary goals can be achieved through reforms. This conclusion reflects the mobility and conventionality of facets between revolutionary and major reformative transformations, which are generally recognizable by our theory of reality. Today it has the nature of a political warning against ventures both in strategy and tactics.

Fourth, it is a provision regarding the fact that the party must express and defend the interests of the working people, which is important under the conditions of the multiparty system that is being formed. Speaking about this, we are far from class exclusiveness and sectarian moods. At the same time, we confirm our readiness—and this is fully resonant with the interests of the working class—to respect the rights to the active sociopolitical activities of all citizens, including those who do not share our convictions. Aspiring to a nationwide role, the party must strive to solve the tasks that are common to the country and without which no one's prosperity is possible.

Finally, the fifth point is the provision on new forms of activities and on enriching the ideological basis of the party. This confirms the conclusion adhered to by Russian Communists that Marxism-Leninism teaching is open to the assimilation of all achievements of advanced progressive thought.

Today, when processes in socio-economic, political, and spiritual life have become immeasurably complicated, the creative development of theory is an absolute prerequisite for the party's successful activity.

Of course, I consider it expedient to mention only individual points. They seem to coroborate the fact that the draft program may serve as a good basis for discussion.

One should also point out the theses that are provoking and will certainly provoke arguments and undoubtedly need to be further elaborated. I will give you my views.

First, there is the description of society's economic foundation. I believe that our future economic system must not be be unequivocally described as a market-based system. While admitting that the market is a comprehensive tool for regulating national economic relations—this is an indisputable fact—I believe that it is impermissible to restrict relations to the market alone. This is a one-sided and single dimensional approach. A market has existed and will exist in various social conditions, but one cannot proceed from it alone. In this way we are cutting ourselves off from an all-around balanced analysis of the laws of economic life and an efficient economic policy.

Further, in the draft the Communist Party is described as a party of democratic reforms, political and economic freedom, social justice, and values common to all humankind. You must agree that such a definition, without omissions or cuts, will suit the majority of social-democratic and liberal bourgeois parties. So what is bad about it, some will ask. The thing is that we pursue not only the above goals, but that we understand them differently to a considerable degree. Thus, it is not just a question of formality. The nature of the party's activity depends on the way its political, social, and ideological essence is defined.

The third aspect concerns the relationship between our problems and the universal problems of civilization. In one form or another, the draft contains this idea: We have, allegedly, fallen behind civilization; we must return to its mainstream. All our errors and difficulties notwithstanding, it is hardly proper to so underestimate Soviet society's historical potential. Incidentally, the concepts of an allegedly united and ever more harmonious civilization also require serious revision, as a minimum.

One can talk for a long time about the weaknesses of the draft. However, I want to stress yet again: The program's role is to be that of not only a theoretical, ideological-political instrument, but also a means of unifying and rallying around our party. This means that in many cases it is, as it were, the common denominator of positions that has been formulated. If one is to dissect each position, one will surely find it easy to arrive at different interpretations. But at present, in a period of severe crisis, political passions, stormy emotions, and wounded feelings, the task is different. The main thing is to bring to light what is common and what is able to keep us together and provide a basis for united action. Tangible and creative practical work is the best medicine preventing all cracks and splits within the party and in society.

Comrades: The discussion of the draft program has shown, for the umpteenth time, the extent of the neglect of theoretical work in the party and the extent of the importance of attaining qualitative progress here, all the gravity of other problems notwithstanding.

Naturally, the point does not just revolve around the program. Numerous letters from and resolutions passed by gatherings of Communists state that the party ought to define with precision whom it is defending, where it is leading, and what future it has. However, just take a look at what our theoreticians—and us with them—are busy with. We are going around in circles: the market—private property—privatization; privatisation—private property—the market.

But, after all, this is ossified dogmatism. Much of this was done 100 or 50 years ago. Our radicals, who rejoice in connection with the issue of the market, are hopelessly obsolete. Never mind who tinkers with these concepts, never mind who compiles or proclaims their own programs here; in the final analysis, all this is old hat.

Classical private property is constantly appearing in new forms. When attempts are made to convince us that through private property we will get someone who is in charge, who as a master would be in charge, and that we will thus have a genuine and ardent interest in production and the strongest incentive-based motives, then let me disagree with much of this. The collective capitalist, as it were, has for long coexisted side by side with the individual capitalist. This is not a coincidence. The process of taking property into public ownership is proceeding irreversibly. No one can halt it, for this is a

social and historical process. It is another matter that at the present stage of development we have not had a variety of forms of ownership, even though it was planned. But haven't we had many distortions in the socialist theory and practice?

Here, then, are several examples for those who rush headlong into the element of private property, hoping to find therein the answers to all questions. American specialists have a very skeptical attitude toward the experience of the use of small contour farming in Poland, stressing that small farms cannot be highly effective. "Farmerization" will not yield the desired results without the creation of flexible, demonopolized market structures both in the area of marketing of agricultural produce and in the area of supplying the means of production to agriculture. It is the view of Western specialists that in Poland and Yugoslavia, where the individual peasant agricultural structure is retained, the issue of making farms bigger, which is a necessary condition for mastering front-ranking agrarian technology, is becoming the number one problem.

Here is another example: According to the U.S. Congress Technology Assessment Board, 5 percent of the major farms and agro-industrial corporations in the country account for nearly 40 percent of all arable land and more than half of the commodity output, while 13 percent of large farms (with annual sales of over $100,000) account for 72 percent of agricultural produce. At the same time, small family farms, which make up three-fifths of all the farms in the United States and which occupy less than one-fifth of the arable land, account for about 5 percent of the value of marketed agricultural produce. I think no comment is necessary. Enthusiasts of introducing farming and private ownership seem to wish to go forward while looking back. This is dangerous.

It is important to consider the following: If we look at the anatomy of the success of those countries that have attained new heights, they have done so not thanks to the shopkeeper or the farmer, but thanks to a scientific and technical breakthrough based on new technologies. Using such instruments, they boosted the individual's activity and provided him with the possibility of revealing his creative potential. The sense of national pride and patriotism which are characteristic of the United States and Japan and which have a positive effect on economic activity, are not attributes of the market. Far from it.

One has to find answers to the pressing questions: What are we building? How can one blend the values common to civilization with our national features? Those political economists, philosophers, and sociologists who used to teach all of us sitting in this hall that socialism is the best and the most advanced system and who now maintain the opposite view will not achieve a breakthrough in theory.

One thing is always important to them: Keep closer to power; it is warmer there. There will be no use to our people from such men of yesterday.

I do not believe that we can solve these problems in several months of working on the program, but this work should be a powerful stimulus for theoretical activity in the party. In addition, Russian Communists do have something in reserve. Therefore, let us not indulge in self-condemnation. The RSFSR Communist Party has existed only one year, but already has developed responsible theoretical and political positions by developing and deepening the theses that are contained in the CPSU founding documents. We should first mention our estimate of the present stage of perestroyka, supporting the conclusion that the process has deviated from the intended course, that it has been hijacked by the forces that aim to achieve regeneration of the soviet system—although this is being met with disagreement in some circles—this causes polemics. Our party has made a substantial contribution to discussion about the ways for developing the economy and transition to the market, having disclosed the helplessness and groundlessness of the hastily prepared concepts and showing what tragic damage they could bring to our people and society. We have developed a program of secure protection for the working people for the present transitional stage. Many concrete positions outlined by the Communists met with recognition in the course of discussion, which is not yet finished, about the new constitution of the Russian Federation. The characterization of the social basis of the party, and the party's declining to assume that it represents the interests of all the people, is a service performed by Communist academics. We are actively working on the problems of a multiparty system.

I could continue in this vein, but suffice it to say that this is just the start. We must drastically step up our endeavors and consider how to attract young and gifted academics and stimulate creative thinking. We are surrounded by many people with inborn talents. A.S. Shusharin is one example. Passages from his work have been handed out to you. Read them and see. He has gone far beyond dividing things into black and white. Another example is the theoretical work of the experimental creative center headed by S. Ye. Kurginyan. They attract attention and act as a spur to scientific endeavor. Let's read the published works of our fellow countrymen whom fate has willed to end up in the West. The works of Aleksandr Zinovyev and Eduard Limonov serve as an example. They know about capitalism from more than just hearsay. I repeat: It is the duty of our Central Committee and party committees to employ all the best there is and to draw thinking academics into the debate.

There is no doubt that the draft CPSU program should be widely and stringently discussed. Following publication, it must be examined by all primary organizations, but not in a purely formal way; not so that one person reads it out, others quietly listen, then they vote and all go home. We have had enough of that sort of theoretical work. I am talking about something different. The ideas

contained in the draft must be passed through the soul of every Communist. No, not every party member can enrich theory. Few can, but things have to be arranged in such a way that everyone—yes, literally everyone—says what is worrying him, how he wants to live, and what needs to be done so that he, his family, his town, and the entire republic are better off. It needs to be discussed with him, and with a small group of comrades, but not at meetings convened for ostentation's sake. Our theoretical constructs and basic documents can only emerge from this and only in this way. They will be closer to life and clearer to all. People will believe and support them. That is what I mean by party discussion: not arguments about whether words like communism, social democrat, or reform are acceptable or not in our party terminology today.

The next stage is the examination of the draft program at conferences and at rayon, city, oblast, and republican congresses. Thanks to this we are using all opportunities for bringing together party organizations and will give a new impetus to the process of developing democracy in the party and to the search for effective organizational and political forms of activities, and above all to making the work go locally. It is still in its embryonic state. Nevertheless, it is precisely here that a huge reserve of political activity lies. Let us admit that a proportion of our failures in elections can be explained namely by the fact that territorially, which is decisive at election time, our efforts were not concentrated or tactically aware.

It is necessary to realize that we are getting down to something new. It needs to be thoroughly thought through. How do we organize the work of territorial organizations in order to involve all Communists living in a given house or microrayon? What questions should they deal with in order that these issues are socially significant and politically important? How do we work with mass organizations? How do we preserve and strengthen links with labor collectives? It is necessary to answer these questions without delay. To date, party organizations have accumulated a wealth of experience in this sphere. It needs to be generalized and used.

The new program, as we have already said, will be examined at the 29th congress. Undoubtedly, an extraordinary congress of the Russian Communist Party should be convened shortly after it.

Why after and not before it? Everyone understands the meaning of an all-Union congress. Republican organizations must base their work in accordance with its decisions. Communists will have an opportunity to get to the bottom of the situation. Undoubtedly, the CPSU congress will improve the situation in the party and will determine who is who.

In all probability, some of the present members of the party will abandon its ranks. Fellow travellers will step aside; some will run to seek advantages and privileges in other parties. Another aspect is also important. The Union treaty will be signed by the time our congress convenes. The structure of the unified state and the nature of mutual relations among its constituent parts will have become clear. This will also make it possible to make more precise the status of our party within the CPSU.

It appears that it is necessary to set up a commission of Central Committee members, active Communists from various regions, which will start to prepare the documents necessary for the congress and, above all, will get busy studying the views, proposals, and moods of Communists. We must go to the congress very conversant with their positions and views on what the ideological content and organizational structure of the renewed party, its goals, and its tasks should be like. We must surely continue to be guided by the CPSU documents, introducing to them, if necessary, such amendments as take into account the specific nature of the activity of the Russian Communist Party. Therein lies its lofty destiny.

It is necessary to discuss the procedure for the election of delegates. Obviously, the experience of preparing the 28th congress ought to be put to use. At that time delegates were elected according to constituencies in territorial party organizations and directly at congresses and regional and oblast conferences. It is our view that party organizations themselves ought to resolve the issue of which method of elections should be given preference. It is, however, clear that in a situation in which their numerical strength has gone down and will apparently go down still further, one will have to ensure that the maximum possible number of primary organizations is represented at the congress. At the same time, one must not strive to hold a mass congress of many thousands.

We will get good results if the congress is fairly small, compact, but capable of proceeding in a businesslike way, with, for example, 1,000 delegates attending. The CPSU Central Committee has also decided to hold a not very large congress.

Now for the rules: A view is afoot among Communists that the rules adopted by the 28th congress did not help to strengthen the party. In legalizing different tendencies, it ushered in opportunities for factional fighting, which has been embarked on by individual party members who do not share Communist convictions and have their own particular approaches.

I want to be properly understood. There is no doubt that tendencies are a normal phenomenon, but only as a school of political thought and a channel for creative debate. When it comes to implementing adopted decisions, the arguments have to cease; they must be put to one side. The tendencies fall silent, if I may put it like that. They work together, but the snag is that no one has yet worked out clearly where the line is to be drawn between a tendency and a political grouping. Certain tendencies have set up their own organizational structures and profess their own discipline, but that is no longer a tendency but a political grouping. In a situation of confrontation within the party, they encumber it with

new barriers. Moreover, it reaches the stage where there is a desire to institute different parties within the party.

Our party does not have its own rules. We operate on the basis of the CPSU rules. It may become necessary to register a party organization of the republic, even though this consoldidates the division of the CPSU into several parts, as it were, which does not, by and large, benefit either the party or the Union. Obviously, a group needs to be set up at the plenum to study all the suggestions that Communists have regarding additions to the existing rules that will enable us, within the framework of common principles, to arrange our organizational work in a better fashion. The rules do give us such rights.

Let us admit, nevertheless, that however perfect we make our rules, they will not justify the expectations if we do not take care of improving the overall climate in the party, primarily restoring the spirit of party comradeship. This cannot be ensured by any norm of the rules. Comradeship is the highest manifestation of mutual respect and trust. It implies a feeling of fellowship, mutual assistance, and help in difficult situations. It means integrity and honesty, and nobleness in the highest degree, if you like. It also means responsibility to the party and one another. There are many cases in which party members, instead of helping their comrades, put obstacles in their way. Some of them have plunged into the avarice, had squabbles, or sought personal enrichment, thereby disctrediting the name of Communist. Individual organizations have drowned in paperwork, bureaucratism, and formalism. They work formally and have even stopped holding meetings, although the situation around them, frankly speaking, calls for something completely different.

Perhaps many complaints can be made about the work of our Central Committee and its apparatus, and you will voice them. This is correct. Almost all of you have been working at your posts for much longer than workers of our apparatus who came here since last October. However, I would like to draw your attention to the following point: The apparatus is being accused of giving little or not enough instructions as to what should be done locally. Claims such as these show that the party is poorly restructuring itself for the time being and is in no hurry to implement the principle of preeminence of the party masses. This means that the main initiative should come from below. Let us learn this, share experience, and consult each other, as it is only in this manner that one can work efficiently.

Certain people say: It is not the shortage of instructions but their poor quality that is to blame. That is probably the case. We are all learning how to work under the new conditions. Moreover, instructions and directives are coming at one and the same time from our Central Committee and from the Union Central Committee. Today the relationship between the functions of the apparatus of the CPSU Central Committee and the apparatus of the Central Committee of the RSFSR Communist Party are clearly abnormal. This problem needs to be eliminated at the 29th congress.

In addition to this, several leaders of our central control commission have recently, against their own will, started to assume the role of a third center. Although it has its own fairly important functions and its own duties, these issues also need to be more clearly defined at the forthcoming congress of Russian Communists.

The experience of many oblasts bears witness to the fact that party committees can work independently and actively even under extreme conditions. Recently, the Politburo heard a report by the Belgorod Oblast Committee. Even in the face of the collapse of economic direction and the direction of the agro-industrial complex, it has been possible to keep the oblast going and to successfully defend the interests of the working people. The Central Committee has sent a note on this issue to all party committees.

We must devote particular attention in our documents to the work of the soviets. The role of the factions of Communists is growing. There are many problems here: the introduction of the election campaign, the organization of the work of voters' clubs, the support of links with deputies, and their election to the leading party bodies at all levels. It is dangerous to prolong the period of disturbance. We now need to carry out reconstruction more actively.

The theme of work in the soviets is being examined in detail in the propositions. I will not repeat this. I will only talk about what my view about a widespread delusion. It is claimed that a Communist elected as a deputy works independently of the party, subordinate only to the will of the electorate. The new statesmen explain to us that they must not be bound by party resolutions. There is no need to explain what lies behind this. It is sufficient to recall how actively some CPSU deputies are destroying the authority of the soviets.

That is why, dear comrades, a deputy's party membership is something that is incontrovertible. He was elected as a Communist and he can not but be responsible to the party. In any parliamentary democracy to which our liberals bow and scrape, deputies who violate party discipline are severely punished. Our opponents shed no tears for such people, although they advise us to the contrary.

The party must become well aware of the fact that it can work actively at present only if it vigorously expands the ties with various mass movements. We have, unfortunately, underestimated this work. The work with the komsomol and trade unions was not, we admit, very prestigious, nor did it seem as responsible as organizational and international work. Now it is the supreme issue. It is an issue upon which, if you like, the party's to be or not to be depends. As I have already said, the party must actively involve itself in workers' and peasants'

movements and in all patriotic currents. It is the natural support for and sense of its activities—its link with the masses.

The time has come to renew sharply all the forms of our work, thus renewing the way the party is. It is necessary to rid party work of formalism, superfluous paperwork, protocols, normative acts, bureaucracy, detailed and various registration forms, and all the pen pushing rubbish that has piled up year after year. Let us have more vivid and live words and real deeds!

Such, then, are certain aspects to which I wanted to draw your attention before we begin to discuss the theses of the Politburo. I hope that the work of the plenum will be fruitful and that we will be able to arrive at decisions that Russia's Communists expect.

In the course of the plenum, Ivan Polozkov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the RSFSR Communist Party, asked to be released from the duties of first secretary and to be released from membership in the Politburo in connection with transfer to other work. The plenum approved this request.

Valentin Kuptsov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was elected first secretary of the Central Committee of the RSFSR Communist Party.

Polozkov Resigns First Secretary Post

LD0608155691 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—Ivan Polozkov resigned as first secretary of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party here today.

His request to be allowed to step down was satisfied by a plenum of the party's Central Committee, which opened earlier in the day.

Official: Decision Will Do Party Good

OW0608195891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1815 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] The Plenum of the Central Committee of Russia's Communist Party elected the party's new leader in Moscow on Tuesday. He is Valentin Kuptsov, until recently a secretary of the CPSU CC [Central Committee]. He is reported to have been elected by an overwhelming majority vote.

Valentin Kuptsov succeeds Ivan Polozkov, whose resignation was accepted at the same Plenum.

Polozkov told the Plenum that he believed his mission to found the Communist Party of the Russian Federation was over and that now he was going to take a different job.

A member of the Politburo, secretary of the republican Communist party's control committee Gennadiy Ziuganov told IF's [INTERFAX] correspondent that in general the CPSU lacked the culture of political resignation and that Polozkov's decision to step down would do the party good.

As far as the election of Valentin Kuptsov is concerned, Ziuganov said that "that man has a good record of work in industry, in the party apparatus, ith public organizations and as a law-maker. For that reason he will be able to consolidate various forces."

"However, at the critical moment the party is experiencing these days there is a great need for strong will and statesmanship. This is something all of our party leaders lack, Ziuganov said. [quotation marks as received]

Kuptsov Elected New First Secretary

LD0608181191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1757 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 6 Aug (TASS)—Valentin Kuptsov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was elected first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] at the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee Plenum today.

TASS Profiles New Leader Kuptsov

LD0608200791 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Mineyev]

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—The Russian Communist Party Central Committee's plenum in Moscow today elected Valentin Kuptsov party leader, to succeed Ivan Polozkov, who resigned at the same meeting. Kuptsov, a [word indistinct] was born on December 4, 1937, into a peasants' family in the Vologda region's Cherepovets district in the north of the country. He started his working life by becoming a collective farmer in 1955. After doing his stint in the army between 1956-1958, Kuptsov worked at the Cherepovets metallurgical works—first as a miller and a shop foreman and then as a shop Communist Party committee chief. In 1966 he completed his extramural studies at the North-Western Polytechnic to qualify as a metal-making engineer.

Kuptsov has been in Communist Party work since 1974, working his way up from second and then first secretary "of the Cherepovets town party committee to first secretary of the Vologda city party committee. He became second secretary of the Vologda region party committee in 1984 and first secretary in" [quotation marks as received] 1985, when he was also elected chairman of the regional governing council. Kuptsov was made chief of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee's department for work with mass political organisations in April 1990. He was elected a Central Committee secretary in July that year.

Kuptsov has been a Central Committee member since 1986 and elected a delegate to the 26th through 28th party congresses and the 19th national party conference. He is a member of the Soviet parliament after winning elections in a constituency rather than having been awarded one of the 100 parliamentary seats legislatively reserved for the party.

Kuptsov is married with two daughters. He has grandchildren.

Rutskoy, Lipetskiy 'Removed'

LD0608194191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network
in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Participants in the plenum were ambivalent towards the members of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Central Committee who intitiated creation of the Democratic Party of Russian Communists—Rutskoy and Lipetskiy. By a majority vote, it has been decided that they are to be removed from Central Committee membership. [passage omitted on Polozkov's resignation]

Next Congress Scheduled

LD0608195691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1855 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 6 Aug (TASS)—The plenum of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Communist Party Central Committee ended its work today. The sensation there was Ivan Polozkov's statement requesting that he be relieved of his duties as first secretary of the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee in connection with his transfer to other work. The plenum granted his request.

Taking into consideration the recommendations of the Central Committee Politburo, as well as proposals that had come from primary town and oblast party organizations, the plenum elected Valentin Kuptsov, CPSU Central Committee secretary, as first secretary of the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee.

The plenum decided to hold the next, second congress of the RSFSR Communist Party in December of this year or January of next year, and it established the procedure for the elections: one delegate for every 7,500 party members.

Changes May End 'Disagreement'

LD0608213791 Moscow TASS in English 2115 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By TASS World Service observer Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—Ivan Polozkov's resignation from the post of the first secretary of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee on Tuesday may end the disagreement between the leadership of the Soviet and the Russian Communist parties.

A plenum of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee relieved Polozkov of his duties and elected Valentin Kuptsov, who made his way up the ladder under Mikhail Gorbachev, to the post of the leader of the Russian Communist Party.

Participants in the plenum separated themselves from democratic-minded Communists, including former members of its Central Committee Aleksandr Rutskoy and Vasiliy Lipetskiy, who initiated the creation of the Democratic Party of Russian Communists. The plenum expelled them from the party.

Polozkov, a conservative, drew fire both from the left and the right. Democratic-minded party members accused him of the conservative course and the lack of flexibility, which damaged the party's prestige and made many Communists quit their membership. Conservatives, on the contrary, urged Polozkov to be more determined in defending "socialist principles".

Over the past months, several Russian Communist Party organisations in various cities as well as some Russian parliamentarians demanded Polozkov's resignation. Polozkov, however, denied these rumours. Moreover, his report to the plenary meeting gave no hint of his intention to quit the post. The decision, however, was prompted by severe criticism during debates.

Changing the party leader was an obvious attempt to strengthen the party's positions and try to change the negative attitude towards the party as a conservative organisation.

This question came to the fore after former member of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee Aleksandr Rutskoy proposed to set up a new Democratic Party of Russian Communists, and Russian President Boris Yeltsin's decree on "departyization" (the withdrawal of party structures from state organisations).

The election of Kuptsov, who was not in the leadership of the Russian Communist Party and whose "political face" is practically unknown, as Polozkov's successor is characteristic in itself.

Between 1989-1990, he was a member of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee bureau headed by Mikhail Gorbachev. This circumstance gives grounds to think that he will orient himself to the centrist course pursued by the leader of the Soviet Communist Party, who condemned "a fundamentalist line in the party" at the latest plenum of the CPSU CC.

The new leader of the Russian Communist Party will most likely make efforts to change "the political image" of the party and make its policy more democratic in order to keep communists from joining the Democratic Party of Russian Communists.

Results of Plenum Detailed

LD0608215491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2003 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 6 Aug (TASS)—A regular plenum of the Central Committee of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Communist Party was held today.

Members of the Central Control Commission of the RSFSR Communist Party; first secretaries of republican, kray, oblast, and okrug party committees; secretaries of party committees of the arms of the services stationed on the RSFSR territory; rectors of educational establishments of the Communist Party; and RSFSR people's deputies who are non-members of the central elected bodies of the Communist Party took part in its work.

The plenum discussed the following issues:

1. The political situation in the republic and on the tasks of the Communist Party.

2. The constituent conference of the Democratic Party of Russian Communists.

3. The convocation of an extraordinary second congress of the RSFSR Communist Party.

4. Organizational issues.

I.K. Polozkov spoke on the first issue of the agenda at the plenum. I.I. Antonovich delivered a report on the second issue.

A total of 17 people took part in the debates.

N.P. Silkova spoke on behalf of the editorial commission.

The plenum instructed the Central Committee Secretariat to complete work on the propositions of the Central Committee of the RSFSR Communist Party "on the political situation and tasks of the Communist Party," taking into account the discussion that took place, and to forward them to party committees and publish them in the party press.

On the basis of the propositions, the plenum recommended party committees and party organizations to devise specific measures to ensure the unity of communists actions; to actively facilitate the unification of public efforts in the name of preserving the integrity of the state and the RSFSR and the strengthening of soviets as bodies of public power; and to help the implementation of the measures that are undertaken by legislative and executive bodies for overcoming the crisis and stabilizing the work of enterprises and other economic structures.

A resolution was adopted on immediate issues concerning the work of party organizations as a result of the RSFSR president's decree on banning party activity.

The Central Committee plenum decided to convene an extraordinary second congress of the RSFSR Communist Party in December 1991-January 1992. The membership of a commission for pooling proposals and remarks from Communists on the draft CPSU program was confirmed. A commission was set up to prepare normative documents on the organizational foundations of the activity of the RSFSR Communist Party.

The plenum satisfied the request of I.K. Polozkov and released him from the duties of first secretary and member of the Politburo of the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee in connection with his transfer to other work.

V.A. Kuptsov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was elected first secretary of the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee and member of the Politburo of the Central Committee.

The plenum removed V.S. Lipitskiy, A.V. Rutskoy, and Yu.M. Protasenko from membership of the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee. For acts contravening CPSU rules and aimed at splitting the party, V.S. Lipitskiy and A.V. Rutskoy were expelled from the CPSU. Information on this is being sent to the primary organizations.

Taking part in the work of the plenum were: O.S. Shenin, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Yu.A. Prokofyev and M.S. Surkov, members of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee; and B.V. Gidaspov, V.A. Kuptsov and Yu.A. Manayenkov, secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee.

Yeltsin Visits Salekhard, Meets Residents

LD0708045991 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Boris Yeltsin, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic president, visited Salekhard, Tyumen Oblast, this morning. He said his first impression of this town, the administrative center of the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug, was very depressing. During his meetings with leaders of various ranks, Boris Yeltsin stressed that people's life here, which is already difficult as it is, deteriorated substantially after the 2 April price rise. The region, which is making a weighty contribution to the country's oil and gas recovery, is living under catastrophic conditions. Ethnic problems have recently been added to the list of social problems. According to Gennadiy Burtsev, chairman of the okrug executive committee, the conflict between traditional farming and the new kinds of industry which arrived on the okrug's territory some 30 years ago has been taking shape for a long time. Native inhabitants now want to receive the right to decide themselves under what conditions to permit this business, which destroys nature. During a brief conversation with Salekhard residents, Boris Yeltsin said that he shares Yalma-Nenets Autonomous Okrug's anxiety over continued nuclear weapons tests at

Novaya Zemlya. The Russian president feels it would be best to cease these tests at once. However, the problem cannot be resolved that simply since the military, for instance, opposes the idea of ending the nuclear tests. At the same time, it is necessary to agree to lower the power of the explosion and to try to compensate the damage being inflicted on nature.

Boris Yeltsin arrived in Noyabrsk this evening.

Expresses Concern Over Nuclear Tests

OW0608223491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Answering a question on the airfield of Salekhard, during a meeting with residents of this polar city, President of the Russian Federation, Boris Yeltsin, said he shared general concern about the continuing nuclear tests in Nova Zemlya. He also noted that he had discussed this topic with President Bush and proposed that nuclear tests be mutually terminated in the U.S. and the USSR. The military are against, he said.

The termination of nuclear tests in Nova Zemlya is a very complicated problem. In case such tests continue, said Boris Yeltsin, their yield must be sharply decreased and nature- conservation compensation measures should be taken, so the explosions do not ruin the natural environment.

Democratic Party of Communists Resolution Cited

LD0608181191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1637 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By unidentified correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Aug (TASS)—The council of the Democratic Party of Communists of Russia [Demokraticheskaya Partiya Kommunistov Rossii—DPCR] today released the text of a resolution of the party's founding conference, confirming its role as an opponent of the Russian Federation's Communist Party within the CPSU.

The document, which was adopted by delegates at the founding conference last Saturday, notes their decisive break with the "totalitarian legacy" and "ideological dogmatism," and their non-acceptance of the "conservative policy of the leadership of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Communist Party." The conference participants declare that they express "the will of the majority of communists of Russia."

The conference resolved to set up the DPCR within the CPSU as "a voluntary sociopolitical association operating by parliamentary means within the laws of the USSR and RSFSR and participating in the implementation of democratic reforms aimed at strengthening the prosperity, social protection, rights, and freedoms of the citizens of Russia during the emergence of a social market economy, a civil society, and a law-governed state."

The group stated its intention to support the Supreme Soviet, the RSFSR president, and the Russian government in their activities aimed at the radical renewal of society.

The DPCR Council will carry out the party's registration in accordance with the procedures stipulated by law and will promulgate the procedures for admittance into its ranks, including by former CPSU members who left the party due to disagreement with the RSFSR Communist Party's political course.

During the organizational period, the DPCR Council and all the delegates to the conference are instructed to start preparations for setting up primary and local party organizations, to hold elections of delegates to the first congress in September-October, and to convene the congress in Moscow in October-November.

The congress' agenda includes such items as the direction for the DPCR, elections to its central bodies, and the procedure for electing delegates to the 29th CPSU congress.

The conference deems it expedient for the DPCR to join the "Civic Concord" All-Russian sociopolitical movement as a collective member, supports the initiative for setting up the Movement for Democratic Reforms, and recommends that DPCR members take part in its construction. It recognizes as "timely and constitutional" the RSFSR president's decree on the "departization" of state institutions, which came into force on Monday. From the very start, DPCR structures should be formed as territorial, professional, and functional associations, party clubs, and so on.

The DPCR conference demands that the CPSU Central Committee urgently set up a commission for monitoring the preservation of, and ensuring access to, party archives.

Observers note that text of the resolution of the DPCR constituent conference was circulated on the day a plenum of the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee was held, at which Ivan Polozkov, leader of the Russian communists, before resigning, called the DPCR "a party of pretenders."

Defections From CPSU, RCP Expected

PM0608144891 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 29, 21-28 Jul 91 p 3

[Report by Olga Bychkova: "Four Million Members May Defect"]

[Text] Vice-President of Russia intends to make a statement that unlike Ivan Polozkov's party his future Democratic Party of Communists of Russia (DPCR) is the real Communist Party. How soon the announcement

comes depends on the progress of Rutskoy-led movements "Communists for Democracy" and 'Civil Harmony".

The founding congress of the DPCR has been scheduled for August. Draft rules and the programme seem to have been prepared and are expected to be published soon. Organizers of the new party intend for it to function as part of the CPSU structure. According to the CPSU rules, none of its structures may have separate rule or programmes—which is why Polozkov's Russian Communist Party (RCP) has not been officially registered in the Russian Federation. The DPCR is supposed to go through all the standard procedures, and its official registration is an important part of the process.

According to Rutskoy, letters and telegrams are pouring in to the organizing committee from party organizations, committees and individual members, and those who had left the CPSU. They offer help, or want to know where they can send their dues. Rutskoy expects that his party—a parliamentary communist party which would support the Russian Federation's leaders will have nearly four million members defecting from the CPSU. This is 35 or 45 per cent of the RCP. Communists for Democracy have called during the 5th Congress of people's deputies of Russia upon the other Communists so that they can dissociate themselves from the Central Committee of the RCP and elect representatives for the DPCR congress in August.

Aleksandr Rutskoy appears to be, intentionally or not, carrying out a Russian version of "decommunisation". Gently and without offending millions of rank-and-file members. Despite everything he is hoping to fill the old bottles with a new wine. More so because discarding thse bottles would not be wise, if the bottles are metaphorically party property. Rutskoy's comrades insist that this property be used to improve conditions for the disabled and orphans (it is not quite clear how this can be done). The RCP's head Ivan Polozkov still insists in off-the-record interviews that his party owns no property, that everything belongs to the omnipotent CPSU.

He also insists that the future DPCR is merely "a figment, because it has no social foundation". That however does not prevent his associate, secretary of the RCP Central Committee Gennadiy Zyuganov from exploring possibilities of diplomatic takls with Rutskoy, while head of the control commission of the RCP Nikolay Stiolyarov not only supports Rutskoy, but is actually taking part in drafting the DPCR's programme.

A split in the CPSU is very likely imminent. Logically, democratic-minded Communists will be making decisions in the meantime. The coming plenums of the Central Committees of the CPSU and the RCP will follow a familiar pattern, with hardliners trying to strike a preemptive blow.

Pavlov Begins 'Working Visit' to Karelia SSR

LD0608121891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1051 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By correspondent Vladimir Zlobin]

[Text] Petrozavodsk, 6 Aug (TASS)—USSR Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov arrived in Petrozavodsk today. At the invitation of the Government of the Karelian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic], he will, during the course of three days, become acquainted with this republic in northwestern USSR—whose main natural wealth is timber, which is exported to many countries in the world.

Immediately after his arrival a conversation took place in the Karelian SSR Council of Ministers with the participation of members of the government and leaders of the republic's Supreme Soviet and representatives of industrial enterprises and organizations.

During his working visit to Karelia the USSR prime minister will visit the building site of the Onezhskiy Tractor Works and a paper making combine in the town of Segezha and will visit the miners' town of Kostomuksha and the timber men of the Ladoga region.

A meeting with Finnish Prime Minister Esko Aho is planned to take place at the "Lyutta" crossing and checkpoint.

Discusses Karelia's Role in Union

LD0608201691 Moscow TASS in English 1930 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By special correspondent]

[Text] Petrozavodsk August 6 TASS—The role and place of Karelia in the renovated Soviet Union was the theme of a meeting between visiting Soviet Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov and Karelian government members, people's deputies, enterprise heads and representatives of the public.

The Karelian republic is living through a hard time. True, the decline of production there is less sharp than in many other republics and regions, heads of the Karelian Council of Ministers said. Still, great and coordinated efforts will be needed to stop it and stabilise the social and economic situation.

Nevertheless, the Karelian officials did not pour a cascade of requests and demands on the Union government. They understand that the republic has substantial reserves.

Much attention is paid to the possibility of intensification of economic relations and mutually beneficial cooperation with foreign countries, primarily Scandinavian ones and neighbouring Finland.

Answering to the questions, the prime minister highlighted the situation in the country. The major danger of

this situation, to his opinion, is that "under conditions of a tough crisis some regions try to save themselves by their own." This aggravates the difficulties for both these regions and the country as the whole.

The only way out of the situation is a political solution of the chief question: soon a new Union treaty will be opened for signing and this is the basis for the construction of a united economic mechanism.

"Our main direction has been chosen correctly—this is the expansion of independence and rights of enterprises. The cabinet is sure that we have no other way than the modernisation of production. Only this direction is capable of dragging the economy and people out of crisis," Pavlov said.

"It is very important to use in these processes such advantages of our economy as the concentration of capital and specialisation of production."

A sharp and painful question now is the loss of the sense of the future by some people, Pavlov said. We should return people the belief in their forces and possibilities. But one can do this only after understanding the prospects for one's enterprise, region and republic.

In this connection the most important becomes the comprehensiveness of plans, the social and economic development of Karelia, realism and precise estimation.

The Union government will do all it can to help the implementation of this program, the prime minister assured.

Russia-Armenia Treaty on Relations Drafted

LD0708103191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0907 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 7 Aug (TASS)—The drafting, at the level of working groups, of a treaty on the basis of relations between the Russian Federation and Armenia has been completed in the Soviet capital. This was reported today by the press service of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The draft is based on recognition of the right to state independence for each of the parties, and of the right to participate in the union of sovereign states, on the principle of the building by the parties of democratic, law-governed states on their territory, and on adherence to the universally recognized norms of international law, including international agreements on human rights.

The document notes the closeness of the cultures of the two peoples and the ancient traditions of cultural intercourse and friendly relations between them. The treaty registers recognition of its parties as sovereign states, entities under international law which are quite determined to create the political and economic conditions for the consolidation of their sovereignty. The draft embodies guarantees for all civil, political, social, economic, and cultural rights in accordance with international norms for all those who come under the jurisdiction of the parties to it. Each party is obliged to assist the other in protecting the rights of the other's citizens on its own territory. Similar guarantees are envisaged for ethnic minorities. There is provision for the possibility of concluding an agreement on resolving issues of dual citizenship. The parties intend to cooperate with each other in all spheres of international relations. The treaty defines the most important spheres for their cooperation and the fundamental approach to issues of property, and a list of top-priority economic agreements. The parties intend to exchange plenipotentiary missions, to hold regular consultations on matters of implementation of the treaty, and also to create corresponding commissions on cooperation.

Ukraine

Carpathian MD Statement on Ukrainian Army

PM0408132991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jul 91 First Edition p 2

[By Colonel V. Dorofeyev: "Statement by Carpathian Military District Staff Press Center"]

[Text] Leaders of Rukh and the Ukrainian Republican Party [URP], with no consideration for present-day realities, are doggedly pursuing a course of implementing their program directives on military questions. A conference was held in the city of Stryy on their initiative, in particular, at which a coordinating committee for the creation of a Ukrainian National Army was elected. Delegates to a congress of Ukrainian officers were also elected—the congress will be held in Kiev 27-28 July.

These actions, a statement circulated by the Carpathian Military District Staff Press center says, are not only ridiculous but also irresponsible. The attempt to split up the USSR Armed Forces by nationality—as bitter experience has shown—will further destabilize the situation not only in the region but also in the country as a whole. That is why the district's command, officers, and all personnel regard the policy being pursued by Rukh and the URP on military issues as adventurist, designed to satisfy nationalist ambitions, and have nothing in common with defending the Ukraine's true interests. The planned Ukrainian Officers Congress in Kiev is nothing more than another attempt by destructive forces to sow dissension among officers, shatter the foundations of the USSR Armed Forces, and thus weaken our country's defense capability.

Rukh-Sponsored Congress of Officers Condemned

PM0508084591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jul 91 First Edition p 2

[By Lieutenant Colonel V. Bilan, senior secretary of the Kiev Military District newspaper LENINSKOYE ZNAMYA: "Rukh's Escapades"]

[Text] Kiev—The Rukh-sponsored congress of army officers who are Ukrainian citizens ended work at the House of the Teacher in Kiev yesterday. Around 320 people took part in its work, half of whom are reserve officers.

The speeches were full of attacks on the CPSU, the recent party Central Committee plenum, and the Soviet Army, which was frequently called an army of occupation. It was claimed that it is in the hands of the CPSU and serves imperial aims. The draft Union treaty was subjected to the routine fierce attacks from Rukh's leaders and there were demands not to sign it under any circumstances.

The impression from many speeches by representatives of the army was that the speakers were guided not by the supreme interests of the country and the republic but by personal ambition, resentment at a failed military career, and slow advancement through the service. The assertions that the creation of a national army would cause all military problems, primarily "bullying", to disappear seemed naive. The heightened emotional tone of the speeches certainly did not create the impression that those who had assembled in the hall were officers who are considered to be people of a high cultural level.

Many military garrisons in the Ukraine and higher military educational establishments have adopted appeals condemning Rukh's congress escapade.

Fokin Warns of Emergency Food Situation

OW0608202991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1815 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] The Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin made a special statement on republican television on Tuesday. He said he decided to speak on television due to emergency circumstances. Harvesting in the Ukraine is nearing completion. This year's grain harvest is estimated at 44 mln. tons. Fokin said that was enough to ensure food supply, however, on the condition the state would buy no less than 17 mln. tons. However, to this day a mere 6.2 tons of the 26 mln. tons of grain already threshed have been delivered to the storages.

The prime minister said that the sales of grain to the government were in most cases boycotted by the regional and district officials and some chairmen of farm cooperatives. The situation in the Zaporozhie and Donetsk regions was the worst. Vitold Fokin warned that was fraught with unpredictable consequences.

Already now more than 20 mln. tons are stored in inappropriate conditions and face the risk of being destroyed.

The Ukrainan prime minister warned that either the resistance of agricultural managers at all levels was overcome, or the Ukraine would be faced with the prospect of bread rationing and endless lines for food.

The prime minister fears that the grain will not remain in the republic, but will be taken out of the Ukraine by wholesale black market dealers. As a result select few will receive enormous sums of money not supported with goods in the market. As a result, inflation will soar.

Vitold Fokin said that the Ukrainian government's measures to protect the food market had many critics. However, he said the republic was determined to honour the inter-republican agreements and orders for supplies to the union fund. He said the bans on the traffic of foodstuffs out of the republic were temporary and would be lifted as soon as the targets for grain sales were met.

UK's Lamont Interviewed in Kiev

LD0608132791 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] Norman Lamont, Great Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, stayed in Kiev for two days. Our correspondent, Oleksander Zytnik, reports:

[Zytnik] Great Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer arrived in Kiev from Moscow on Saturday. On the same day he visited the branches of the Arsenal and Almaz production associations which, while being converted, are producing only consumer goods. Afterwards, Mr. Lamont strolled through the Bessarabian market and visited places of interest in the city.

In the evening he appeared at the briefing for Ukrainian and foreign journalists who are accredited in Kiev. The working day ended with a dinner in his honor.

The following day Mr. Lamont acquainted himself with a joint enterprise in Kiev Oblast, after which he departed for home.

After the Saturday's briefing I asked Mr. Lamont for an interview for this early morning program and he agreed to it.

[Begin Lamont recording in English with superimposed Ukrainian translation] I was invited by the Soviet Government to follow up the discussion we had with President Gorbachev at the G-7 conference in London. The aim of my visit is to find out what we can contribute to the process of the integration of the Soviet economy into the world economy and also to assess the pace of processes and reforms in the Soviet Union. I also believe that the aim of my visit includes working out our own approach and our own stance with regard to the progress that has already been achieved in the sphere of transformations. I mean the changes that may attract Western businessmen to participate in the Soviet and Ukrainian economies.

As a result of my visit I have a much clearer idea of the detailed plans for the development of your economy. I heard this during the talks with President Gorbachev at the USSR Ministry of Finance. Of course, I did not agree with everything. I will outline these plans to my colleagues from the G-7 club when I return home.

My main impression in Kiev is that the Ukrainian people really want to introduce economic changes in the republic. There are people who are afraid of this, though. They said that there is no need to force this process. In my view, however, the government should not be scared by the possibility of people earning big money. I believe that what is needed is structural change, including privatization of small enterprises, housing, and land. I do not believe in half-measures. What is needed are real reforms. In such conditions your life will improve.

Some politicians—I do not mean President Gorbachev—assert that such reforms are very difficult to implement and that they will be painful. However, I believe that people will [words indistinct] in order to create a way of life fit for a human being. Now you have the opportunity to introduce precisely such fundamental reforms as are needed. True, you have already had such opportunities in the past. In more than 70 years there were periods when some measures of liberalization and privatization were attempted. But these short periods did not produce genuine results. Now there is another opportunity, and it must not be wasted. You have to proceed in such a way as to make these reforms irreversible concluded Lamont.

Republic Cabinet Confirms Appointments

LD0608150391 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Summary] A session of the Presidium of the Ukraine SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Cabinet of Ministers was held today. The presidium confirmed:

Fedorov as permanent representative of the Ukraine SSR Cabinet of Ministers at the USSR Cabinet of Ministers; Sydorenko as chairman of the state committee for assisting small enterprises and enterprising;

Shteynberg as chairman of the state committee for control of work safety in nuclear engineering;

Lobov as chairman of the Ukraine SSR state committee for defense industry.

Bill on Minimal Consumer Budget Passes

OW0508070291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1320 GMT 3 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] For the first time under Soviet Government the Ukrainian authorities passed a bill on the minimal consumer budget designed to lay foundations for giving social protection to the population during transition to free market.

The bill lists basic consumer goods and services: 12 food products, garments, medicines, furniture, municipal payments, transport fare, unavoidable payments, and the like.

Under the bill the Ukrainian Council of Ministers will have to revise the list at least once every 5 years. The bill went into effect on the day it was passed, that is Friday the 2nd.

Moldova

Economic Accord Signed With Romania

LD0608160191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1447 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Kishinev, 6 Aug (TASS)—An agreement on economic cooperation and commercial exchanges between the republics of Moldova and Romania was signed in Kishinev today by the prime ministers of the two countries, Valeriy Muravskiy and Petre Roman. The document makes provision for the creation of a bilateral intergovernmental commission for issues concerning economic, commercial, scientific, and technical cooperation.

In his address to journalists Prime Minister Petre Roman stated that the fact of signing such an agreement testifies to the important changes that have taken place in the world and in Europe. "Just eighteen months ago such a thing would have been impossible," he stressed. "The Republic of Moldova is now a fully fledged subject of international law."

Prime Minister of Moldova Valeriy Muravskiy gave an account of ways of implementing the agreement, which makes provisions for the creation of favorable terms for mutually advantageous trade and for the creation of joint ventures. Romania and Moldova have an interest in markets for selling goods and acquiring raw materials in the east, and in particular, in Russia. By creating joint, trilateral ventures we can resolve many problems, he noted.

Republic Not To Sign Union Treaty

LD0608213491 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 6 Aug 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Moldova will not sign the [Union] treaty on any conditions. Mircha Snegur stated this today at the signing of documents on cooperation with Romania.

Minister Seeks Market Protection Package

OW0608151391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] There have been 25 special border crossings set up in Moldova to check passing truck loads, Moldovan interior minister Mr. Ion Kostas told [word as received] on Tuesday to the republican press. He insisted that economic police proved to be virtually the only barrier against the wave of theft, black marketeering, illegal operations with raw materials, equipment and finished goods.

Many people saw the road towards leasing [as received] as "a big road for pirate routes," Mr. Kostas said. In the first six months only, the law-enforcement organs have uncovered 1,319 administrative and economic crimes, including 99 grave and especially grave ones. Thirty one crimes which caused a 2.5 m rubles of damage have been uncovered in the agro-industrial sector.

The interior minister believes the package of documents aimed to protect the consumer market should be expanded, and the shipping of goods outside Moldova should only be allowed after the republic as a whole coped with the state order.

According to Mr. Kostas, the banning of cooperatives and joint ventures should be considered which engage in commercial brokerage activity selling industrial goods, food and agricultural produce which were bought through retail and wholesale trade from enterprises and procurement organisations.

Georgia

Government Ready To Negotiate With Center

AU0608182191 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 31 Jul 91 p 1

[Letter from the Republic of Georgia Supreme Council to the USSR Supreme Soviet dated in Tbilisi on 25 July]

[Text] To the USSR Supreme Soviet

Having familiarized itself with the address of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the Supreme Councils of Armenia, Georgia, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, and Estonia, the Republic of Georgia Supreme Council has considered it necessary to reiterate its position regarding the principles of interstate relations with the USSR.

We are well aware how strong the political, economic, and cultural relations are between Georgia and the Soviet Union. People are convinced in Georgia that in the future, these relations must be built on a qualitatively new basis so that we not only maintain but also develop everything of value that has been established as a result of the relations that have existed between our peoples for many centuries. However, we believe that this can only be achieved on the basis of mutual respect for the sovereignty of each side. We are firmly convinced that our independence will only contribute to the expansion of these processes. The postwar development of Europe has shown us that cooperation between democratic states based on equal rights, when, without any kind of ideological or other barriers, each person can share the spiritual values of any nation, will contribute most of all the establishment of close cultural, economic, and political contacts.

Based on the will of the Georgian people expressed in the referendum of 31 March 1991, the Republic of Georgia Supreme Council has declared the restoration of Georgia's state independence. At the same time, we have repeatedly expressed our willingness to have mutually beneficial and equal political, economic, and cultural relations with the Soviet Union and with the nations it contains. However, unfortunately, there are influential conservative forces in the Soviet Union that are hindering these processes in every way possible. They are trying to infringe upon Georgia's territorial integrity, contribute to inflaming interethnic conflicts, declare an economic blockade, and prevent it from having contacts with the rest of the world. They are thus trying to "punish" us because we do not want to sign the Union Treaty. These actions are not contributing to the improvement in relations between our countries and peoples.

The Republic of Georgia Supreme Council has proposed more than once to the leaders of the Soviet Union that talks be started immediately on the resolution of all problems regarding relations between our two states. We believe that the quick resolution of political and economic questions facing both sides will contribute to the regulation of relations between us and to the expansion of friendly ties between the Georgian and Soviet peoples.

Proceeding from the aforesaid, the Republic of Georgia Supreme Council confirms its willingness to sit down at the negotiating table with the USSR leadership at any time.

We hope that you will display goodwill and good sense in the name of the freedom and prosperity of our states and peoples.

The Republic of Georgia Supreme Council.

Tbilisi, 25 July 1991.

U.S. Stand on Union Treaty Criticized

AU0608135391 Paris AFP in English 1331 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, Aug 6 (AFP) — The government of the Soviet Republic of Georgia on Tuesday [6 August] sharply criticized U.S. backing for a draft Union treaty between Moscow and the republics and said the accord could prove "extremely dangerous."

In a four-page statement released by the Georgian mission here, the republic's government accused Washington of preaching the virtues of justice, freedom and democratic self-determination, but failing to support various Soviet republics in their drive for independence from Moscow.

The visit to the Ukrainian capital Kiev by U.S. President George Bush on Thursday "exceeded all the unpleasant expectations we had in connection with such considerations," the statement said.

Washington was backing the Union treaty, proposed by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and expected to be signed by most of the republics, because U.S. officials wrongly perceived it as being in their interest to "safeguard the Soviet Union as a whole."

"We tried to explain that it would be fatal not only for the republics but it would also be extremely dangerous for the whole world, as the Soviet Union is not a union at all.

"It is a union, based upon the vertical structure and ruled by force, and all the other republics have been forcibly incorporated and forced to remain in it. If this violence is to continue, it might lead to a catastrophe for these nations," the statement added.

It noted that Georgia was one of the first republics to hold democratic elections and that its parliament had passed laws protecting foreign investment, private business, private property and had voted to sign the nuclear non-proliferation pact.

On Bush's visit to the Soviet Union during which he warned against the "dangerous manifestation of nationalism" in the country, the statement said that "such a

direct, unceremonious interference was really a blow to those who believed that the USA was still supporting struggles for freedom."

Armenia

Interior Minister on Border Situation, Kurds

NC0708104191 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Report by Manuk Ter-Stepanyan from the press briefing at the Republican Operational Headquarters in Yerevan on 6 August—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Ter-Stepanyan] Here is how the situation on the republic's borders was described by Ashot Manucharyan, acting minister of internal affairs and chief of the Operational Headquarters:

[Manucharyan] As was noted in earlier briefings, the situation is calm in those places where the Azerbaijanis have opted for contacts and forging friendly relations with the Armenian side. I could even go so far as to say that I have spoken with Nakhichevan about setting up trading posts on the border. We had already agreed with the internal affairs ministry of Nakhichevan to do this once the situation calmed down, and we are now proceeding toward the reestablishment of trade ties. This is the situation all along the border with Nakhichevan.

The borders with Azerbaijan proper are generally calm, with the exception of the question of the hostages, the main source of tension now. The Azerbaijani side recently said that it was ready to take steps in this direction and have already released three people. The main problem now is the return of the five militiamen and one citizen who were taken hostage after the incidents in Voskepar. The procuracy and higher authorities have announced their readiness to release them. We are very concerned about their fate, because it is clear to us that if the war of hostages continues, then we might find ourselves taking hostages to trade with theirs. This is unacceptable, as it reduces man to a chattel to be bartered. This problem is wholly responsible for the tension in the northern sector of the border, and I hope the Azerbaijani side will take every measure necessary to find a peaceful solution, in which case our northern borders would become peaceful too.

As for the other sectors of the border: As you know, they killed a few shepherds and stole a large number of animals in Sisianskiy Rayon in the last few months. We retaliated—you still do not know the details about this retaliation—and now the situation has also generally become calm in that sector. [passage omitted]

[Ter-Stepanyan] Commenting on the partisan movement which has emerged lately in Nagorno-Karabakh and Shaumyanovskiy Rayon, Manucharyan said:

[Manucharyan] It has been clear to us for the last two months that the people who were evicted from their villages after the incidents in Getashen, Gadrutskiy, and Berdadzor will never reconcile themselves to what happened to them. Most of the people left their villages and sought shelter in various places such as Stepanakert because they were afraid. Some came to Armenia. Most of the youth of these villages, however, remained in the forests and mountains nearby and are fighting to return to their homes. The people from all those villages which were emptied by the government, by Azerbaijan and the Soviet Army, are determined to struggle to regain their villages, and they are doing so in the forests. The only thing that will satisfy them is for Azerbaijan to withdraw from these plundered villages, allow them to return to their homes, ensure their safety, and pay compensation for damages. This is the only way to establish peace there, and if it is not done this situation will go on indefinitely. At first, these people hoped the mediators could solve their problems, but no one now expects such a thing from or believes in the mediators.

[Ter-Stepanyan] Dear friends, as you may recall it was said at an earlier briefing that Kurdish groups are operating in Lachinskiy in the hope of reestablishing the former Red Kurdistan. Commenting on this, Manucharyan said:

[Manucharyan] I cannot say that we have any clear information about the activities of such groups, but there are some indications that such phenomena exist and that such operations are spreading. The Kurds themselves made some statements in this regard. As you know we have a lot in common with the Kurds. For some years now, they have been the victims of genocide in Turkey. Politically we have many things in common: They too have no fatherland and are dispersed all over the world. As such, as peoples sharing a common fate, we have a good deal of sympathy for them and would like to see conditions for them improve. As you know (?everything possible is being done to create such conditions) for the Kurds and Yezidis in Armenia. This people has the right to determine for itself how it will struggle to achieve its aspirations, but in all cases we would view many of their actions sympathetically. We know they are negotiating with the Azerbaijani leadership [words indistinct]. Not all Kurds consider negotiations to be the only course available, however, and other actions are always possible. Their actions will determine whether we decide to cooperate on certain points (?or remain neutral). Only time will tell.

Representative to North America Appointed

NC0608111791 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] The Armenian Supreme Soviet Presidium met today under Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian Republic Supreme Soviet.

Following up on its 10 December decision on postponing elections for Armenian Republic Supreme Soviet deputies in electoral okrugs with vacant seats, the Presidium decided that these elections should be held in conformity with the Armenian Republic's law on Armenian Supreme Soviet deputies and in line with the procedures envisaged for the general elections. The relevant local election commissions set up for the Armenian Republic referendum are charged with supervising the elections for the vacant seats.

In order to consolidate direct ties with the United States and Canada, coordinate the assistance being provided to Armenia, and establish close relations with the Armenian community and organizations there, the Presidium decided to appoint Aleksandr Arzumanyan as the Armenian Republic's representative in North America, authorizing him to speak on behalf of the Armenian Republic's Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers before American and diaspora Armenian bodies.

The Presidium also decided to confer an award on Valeriy [name indistinct], director of the (Haykortsshin) organization attached to the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, in gratitude for his services in organizing the rescue and restoration work in the earthquake zone.

Davit Vardanyan, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Commission on Foreign Relations, briefed the Presidium on the contacts held by an Armenian delegation in Moscow in connection with the preparatory work on drawing up an intergovernmental agreement between Russia and Armenia.

The Presidium also examined other matters pertaining to the republic's socio-economic life.

Yazov Denies Army Participation in Deportations

NC0608113591 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 0600 GMT 6 Aug 91

[From the review of HAYASTANI HANRAPETUTYUN]

[Text] USSR People's Deputy Smirnov, Russian Federation People's Deputy Ponomaryov, and Leningrad City Soviet People's Deputy Zinnikov have sent a cable to USSR President Gorbachev, Russian Federation President Yeltsin, Azerbaijani President Mutalibov, USSR Defense Minister Yazov, and USSR Internal Affairs Minister Pugo.

In their cable, the people's deputies state: According to our (?findings), a redeployment of the Soviet Army has taken place in the last few days in keeping with a previously concluded agreement. The Army has now been concentrated in Manashid village. Nevertheless, Armenian villages are still being shelled from the same positions and normal life remains disrupted. Furthermore, the Azerbaijanis have begun resettling the forcibly evacuated villages of Buzluk, Manashid, and Erkech, while the refugees from these villages have sought shelter in nearby Armenian villages. [Words indistinct] continuing violations of human rights.

The report on this cable in today's newspaper notes that the three also put forward a series of concrete measures to stabilize the situation in the region and to disband the self-defense forces.

The paper also publishes the cable sent by Zori Balayan, USSR people's deputy from Nagorno-Karabakh, to USSR Defense Minister Yazov on (?4) August. In his cable, Balayan recounts that Yazov had telephoned him to say: We had nothing to do with the forced deportations. We pulled out our troops, and they will not do anything to obstruct the refugees' return to their villages.

(?In fact, Minister Yazov fulfilled this promise in his own way). He did indeed pull out the Army and the military hardware, but then [words indistinct] the Azerbaijani Special Purpose Militia Detachment.

NKAO Favors Ter-Petrosyan's Role in Talks

NC0608111691 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] Yerevan, 5 Aug (ARMENPRES)—Under the headline "Even Stalin Would Not Have Allowed Such a Thing," HAYASTANI HANRAPETUTYUN publishes an interview its correspondent Vigen Sargsyan conducted with Maksim Mirzoyan, chairman of the Stepanakert City Soviet Executive Committee. For nearly a month now, Mirzoyan has been knocking on doors in Moscow, that "bulwark" of peace, to secure peace in Artsakh [Nagorno-Karabakh], but the Soviet leaders, from Gorbachev down to the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the ministers of defense and internal affairs, have turned a deaf ear to Artsakh's plight as they try to hoodwink the world. They make promises which are really no promises at all, and if they have anything to say they go through Azerbaijani leader Mutalibov.

Asked if "the fact of Armenia's participation in the Union treaty is having any real effect on the overall situation in Nagorno- Karabakh," Maksim Mirzoyan replied: "In my opinion, yes. Armenia's absence prompted the center to try to bring pressure on it. How was this pressure applied? There are virtually no communist forces in the republic. Therefore, the simplest, and cruelest, method was used: Harass Armenians living outside the republic. They are fully aware that Artsakh is the most sensitive point for the Armenians and Armenia. The policy being followed there is clear and unequivocal. Soviet warplanes are bombing peaceful villages. Even Stalin would not have allowed events to take such a turn. The present leaders are using no less monstrous methods then those used by Stalin, albeit without Stalinism. At the same time it is rehabilitating people repressed during the Stalinist period, the center is drawing up a list of people whom future generations will have to rehabilitate "due to lack of indictment." I do not hide the fact that

Levon Ter-Petrosyan's participation in the Federation Council is a very hopeful sign, regardless of whether Armenia signs the treaty. It is important for us to know that there is someone who is taking part in that meeting at the highest level who can defend the interests of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Azerbaijan

Nagorno-Karabakh To Participate in Elections

LD0608151391 Moscow TASS in English 1423 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Stepanakert August 6 TASS—Residents of Nagorno-Karabakh will probably participate in the election of the president of the Azerbaijan republic to be held on September 8, according to representatives of the leadership of the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region of Azerbaijan—an area mainly populated by Armenians.

This became possible thanks to the positive politics of the new leadership of the autonomous region. The new stand, named "From Confrontation to Dialogue", was expressed yesterday by the executive committee of the regional people's deputies council.

However, the elections are hampered by an organisational issue of principle: According to the Armenian side, under the "law on the election of the president of the Azerbaijan Republic", district and divisional election commissions are to be set up by local councils, including the regional one.

But powers of the latter were suspended in January, 1989, by a decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Thus, there is dual power in Nagorno-Karabakh now: The area is ruled by the republican organisational committee on Nagorno-Karabakh, to which Azerbaijan population of the region is subordinated, and the executive committee of the Nagorno-Karabakh regional council, which heads the Armenian majority of the region even without the recognition of its powers.

The organisational committee does not have the right to hold the elections under the Azerbaijan Constitution, and the regional council and its executive committee are not recognised by official Baku.

As it was said at the executive committee's meeting, the Armenians believe it necessary to recognise the existing regional council or hold new elections alongside the presidential ones.

It seems that the current consultations between the leadership of the Nagorno-Karabakh executive committee, representatives of the organisational committee and republican heads should give an answer to the question whether the Armenian and Azerbaijan population of the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region will participate in the elections of the Azerbaijan president.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev To Meet Yeltsin, Visit Kyrgyzstan

OW0608204291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] Boris Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation, is to meet with President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, in Alma-Ata next week, IF [INTERFAX] was informed by the press service of Kazakhstan's president. The subject of the forthcoming talks was not revealed.

The press service also announced that the President of Kazakhstan is planning to visit Kyrgyzstan on Friday.

Republic Politburo Statement on Semipalatinsk

LD0608123991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1100 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Text] The final details have been settled concerning the situation surrounding the Semipalatinsk nuclear test ground. The Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee Politburo has published a statement to the effect that the republic's communists favor the unconditional closure of the test ground and its use only for scientific and peaceful purposes. At the Central Committee Politburo session it was stressed that the inhabitants of Semipalatinsk and the adjoining territory of Pavlodar and Karaganda Oblasts have every right to state their unconditional support after 40 years of destructive experiments.

March Urges Closure of Semipalatinsk

OW0608234091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Tuesday, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan published a statement marking the beginning of a national march for closing the nuclear testing ground in Semipalatinsk (the march began on August 5 and will continue till August 29, when the 40th anniversary of the first nuclear test in Kazakhstan will be marked [no closing parenthesis as received]. The statement confirms adherence to the resolutions of the recent congress of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan on the unconditional prohibition of nuclear tests and on the closure of the testing ground in Semipalatinsk and its utilization for scientific and peaceful purposes alone.

The statement also says that "over the 40 years of destructive experiments the residents of Semipalatinsk and of the adjacent Pavlodar and Karaganda regions have every right to reckon on state support without any additional terms."

IF [INTERFAX] reports that at a joint meeting, the Central Committee of the republic's Young Communist League and Committee for Youth Organizations backed the action of the Nevada-Semipalatinsk movement for closing down the nuclear testing ground.

Repairs at Fire-Damaged Plant 'Proceeding Apace'

PM0608120791 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 1 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Report by G. Sytykh, identified by caption, from Karaganda Magnitka Plant]

[Text] [Announcer] Reconstruction of the country's biggest tin-plate production unit, which was damaged by fire in May this year, is proceeding apace at Kazakhstan's Magnitka.

[Sytykh] The production unit, which accounts for more than 50 percent of the country's tin-plate output, took almost 10 years to build and bring into service. But now it has to be restored within a matter of months. This is an unprecedented pace. There simply is no time for work at the normal rate. The production unit must have a roof before the onset of bad weather in the fall, otherwise it will not be able to function. The technological process does not tolerate either moisture or dust getting to the metal.

Metallurgical workers from other enterprises have not left the Karaganda workers to cope with their problems single-handed. Assistance has come from the Magnitogorsk, Nizhniy Tagil, and Orsk-Khalilovo combines. They promptly supplied all the rolled metal needed for metal structures. New walls and roofs have appeared. Many people did not believe this could be achieved so quickly.

The fire put all three units in the tin-plating section out of action. Today two of them are back in operation. The units plate the metal sheet with an anti-corrosive coating which makes it suitable for the production of food cans. You can imagine what a great demand there is for these. The metal workers are doing their utmost to minimize the effects of the disruption in the unit's operation on partner enterprises. The productivity of the tin-plating section is approaching normal levels. The section is having to operate without a roof. In order to protect the production line from dust and rain, these kind of tunnels made from polythene [as received] have been built. The reconstruction of the tin-plate shop is proceeding around the clock.

Australian Firm Supplying Satellite Communications

PM0608122591 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 1 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Report by P. Fedorov, D. Khavin, identified by caption]

[Text] [Announcer] The number of telephone channels linking Kazakhstan with the outside world is to quadruple. This will happen as early as the end of this year, when Australia's state overseas telecommunications company OTC will build a ground station for satellite, telephone, and facsimile communications in Alma-Ata.

[Fedorov] In my opinion, Kazakhstan has made the best possible choice in entrusting the development and modernization of its telephone lines to the Australians. OTC possesses the most up-to-date communications technology linking all the continents and maintaining contact with ships at sea and aircraft in the air via space satellites.

The equipment, designed for Australian conditions, is perfect for Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan's vast expanses, similar to Australia with its sharply pronounced continental climate, are subject to great fluctuations in temperature, and the equipment stands up to them well. Another important point in the agreement between Kazakhstan and Australia is that the republic will not have to pay out hard currency. Telephone calls from West Europe to Asia will be directed via the satellite communications ground station. And part of the payments for these services by foreign subscribers will be used to repay the debt. By year's end, Kazakhstan will have no more difficulties as regards telephone communications with the outside world. And businessmen are really well aware how essential prompt and reliable communications are for conducting business.

[Peter Shore, general manager of OTC International, identified by caption, seen being interviewed, with superimposed Russian translation] We decided to begin our business cooperation with the Soviet Union precisely with Kazakhstan because the republic has enormous economic potential and, as has emerged, is actively seeking international cooperation. Another important point is that Kazakhstan seems to us to be politically the most stable of Soviet republics.

Kyrgyzstan

Cabinet Allocates Funds for Disaster Areas

PM0608151091 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR Cabinet of Ministers"]

[Text] With a view to eliminating the consequences of the natural disaster in the Osh, Dzhalal-Abad, and Naryn Oblasts in the Kyrgyz SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic], the USSR Cabinet of Ministers has resolved:

—to appropriate an additional 18.9 million rubles [R] to the Kyrgyz SSR Government in 1991 to finance capital investments (including R16.5 million for construction and installation operations) in order to restore damaged production and nonproduction facilities and build new ones to replace those that were destroyed; R23 million for repair and restoration work at facilities damaged as a result of the natural disaster; and R1 million for single payments in aid to the population affected by the natural disaster.

In 1991, additional material and technical resources from the USSR Cabinet of Ministers reserve are to be placed at the disposal of the Kyrgyz SSR Government and the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry to carry out work to eliminate the consequences of the natural disaster, and the USSR Ministry of Trade is instructed to place additional consumer goods at the disposal of the Kyrgyz SSR Government for sale to the population affected by the natural disaster.

Conference on Economic Issues Opens in Bishkek

LD0608114691 Moscow TASS in English 1119 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Boris Maynayev]

[Text] Bishkek August 6 TASS—An international conference that opened here today is devoted to topical problems of the interaction of the market and state regulation of the economy. It will last two days.

In its programme are reports by American, Turkish, Soviet economists and those from other countries. It is the first conference of this level held in Kyrgyzstan on a commercial basis. Those who attend the conference pay for admission, and speakers receive fees.

The conference was organised by this Central Asian republic's state committee on economy in connection with the transition to a market. Laws on banks and foreign investments have already been adopted in the republic. Stage-by-stage privatisation of the national economy will be implemented from the end of the year.

Tajikistan

Communist Party Plenum Discusses Role in Soviets

PM0608152891 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Second Edition p 2

[TADZHIKTA-TASS report: "Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] A routine plenum of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee was held in Dushanbe. A briefing on the results of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum and on the course of discussion of the draft CPSU Program in the republic party organization was delivered by K.M. Makhkamov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee.

Oblast, city, and rayon party committees were instructed to organize wide discussion of the document in the primary party organizations, and to sum up the results at the next plenum of the republic Communist Party Central Committee.

The question of the activity of communists in soviets of people's deputies at all levels was also discussed. It was noted that the communists' rating in the republic is high. The recent elections to the Tajik Parliament, where more than 80 percent of people's deputies are Communist Party members, demonstrated this. This gives the party the right to participate actively in forming organs of state administration and to act as a consolidating force. It was on the initiative of communist deputies that the republic Supreme Soviet adopted a number of important laws,

including those on local self-management, youth policy, accountability for the destabilization of the sociopolitical situation in the republic, and a number of other laws aimed at normalizing Tajikistan's economy. With a view to strengthening the communists' role in the soviets, the plenum drew up and approved a specimen provision on communist deputies' groups at soviets of all levels, defining the status of such a group.

Makhkamov Issues Decree To Enforce Leasing Law

LD0708105491 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0900 GMT 7 AUG 91

[Text] President Makhkamov of Tajikistan has signed a decree on urgent measures to implement the law on leasing in the republic. This measure is called for because the law adopted in December last year was quite simply being ignored by the managers of many farms. The decree notes that the leaders of executive committees and enterprises will in the future bear personal responsibility for non-implementation of the law. In addition, they are obliged to give all possible material, technical, and financial support to the development of the leasing movement.

The procuracy of the Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic has been instructed to step up its monitoring of observance of the law and to protect the rights of lessees.

Turkmenistan

Supreme Soviet Session To Begin on 9 Aug

LD0608210891 Ashkhabad Radio Ashkhabad in Turkmen 1615 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] The Presidium of the Turkmenistan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet decrees:

The eighth extraordinary session of the Turkmenistan SSR Supreme Soviet of the 12th convocation shall be convened on 9 August 1991 in Ashkhabad.

[Signed] Muradov, chairman of the Turkmenistan SSR Supreme Soviet, 5 August 1991, Ashkhabad

The eighth extraordinary session of the Turkmenistan SSR Supreme Soviet envisages examining issues concerning confirmation of the draft Union treaty of the sovereign states, the friendship treaty between the Turkmenistan SSR and the Uzbekistan SSR, the friendship treaty between the Turkmenistan SSR and Kyrgyzstan, and some other questions. The eighth extraordinary session of the Turkmenistan SSR Supreme Soviet will last about one day.

Niyazov, Singapore Envoy Discuss Cooperation

LD0608151891 Ashkhabad Radio Ashkhabad Network in Turkmen 1615 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] On 5 August Saparmurat Atayevich Niyazov received His Excellency Joseph Francis Conceicao, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Singapore to the USSR. A business like talk took place on the future of direct cooperation between the Republic of Turkmenistan and Singapore. His Excellency the ambassador said that his country has facilities for (?investing) currency in the Turkmen economy and especially in branches such as reprocessing cotton, gas and oil. There were also talks about using their experience to speed up the development of bank functions while opening to international relations.

Uzbekistan

Republic Authorities Begin 'Employment Program'

LD0708044191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1312 GMT 6 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Kim]

[Text] Tashkent, 6 Aug (TASS)—Many industrial enterprises in Uzbekistan are on the brink of bankruptcy due to a shortage of workers, while at the labor exchanges of this Central Asian republic about 600,000 unemployed people have been registered this year.

To lessen the social tension caused by unemployment, the adoption of an "employment" [zanyatost] program in the republic has been deemed necessary.

There are 156 labor exchanges functioning in Uzbekistan which have expanded their activities with the creation of a labor market. The program envisages the organization of new vacancies. Over the last 18 months, their number has increased by 128,000. For the most part, these are in cooperatives, small enterprises, and various forms of home-based work. It is good that branches and sections of industrial enterprises from other regions of the country have also put themselves forward.

With the transition to market relations, a significant proportion of the unemployed in Uzbekistan will be people affected by cuts made in connection with the closure or reorganization of enterprises and organizations. In the last six months alone in the republic, about 5,000 people have been dismissed by state producers. For the most part, these are engineering and technical workers and clerical staff. Among those falling into the unemployed category, the majority are young people between 16 and 20, as well as women with small children.

However, when there are vacancies at these enterprises, the labor exchanges cannot always fill them—qualified workers need to be trained. The "employment" program envisages the organization of a wide range of courses for requalification with the setting-up of a modern academic base to fulfil these aims.